

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Circular

Department for Work and Pensions

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HB/CTB S5/2008

SUBSIDY CIRCULAR

WHO SHOULD READ	Housing Benefit (HB) and Council Tax Benefit (CTB) Managers and staff, Fraud Managers and staff, officers preparing subsidy claims, officers preparing estimates, and Housing and Homelessness Managers
ACTION	For information
SUBJECT	Non-Housing Revenue Account (HRA) rent rebate subsidy thresholds and caps 2009/10

Guidance Manuals

The information in this circular **does not affect** the content of the *HB/CTB Guidance Manual*.

The information in this circular **does affect** *HB/CTB Subsidy Guidance Manual, Appendix 2*. Please annotate the number of this circular against *Appendix 2* of the manual.

About this circular

This circular is also being issued to holders of HB/CTB F series circulars. As a result, some recipients will receive it twice.

Queries

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Non-Housing Revenue Account rent rebate subsidy thresholds and caps for 2009/10

Introduction

- 1 The current system of subsidy limitation by thresholds and caps for non-Housing Revenue Account (HRA) rent rebate cases applies when a local housing authority secures accommodation from a private landlord and uses the accommodation as temporary accommodation to discharge its functions under the homelessness legislation (*Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996*). This may include accommodation secured by the authority under licence, by a short-term lease, or bed and breakfast accommodation.
- 2 This circular announces the 2009/10 changes and explains the background to them.

Changes for 2009/10

- 3 The thresholds and caps **for authorities outside London** will be increased by 5%, in line with inflation.
- 4 The thresholds and caps **for London authorities** will be frozen at the 2008/09 levels.

Background to the changes

- 5 In *HB/CTB Circular S5/2007*, announcing the thresholds and cap levels for 2008/09, we indicated that we were intending to review the threshold and cap arrangements to ensure that the system is simplified, transparent and sustainable. We are planning to introduce these reforms in April 2010, so the existing thresholds and caps arrangements will continue for 2009/10.

Recent expenditure

- 6 In 07/08 the thresholds and caps were reduced by 5% in London and frozen elsewhere and in 08/09 they were reduced by 10% in London and again frozen elsewhere. These constraints were applied to encourage a reduction in expenditure on non HRA rent rebates, subject to the thresholds and caps, which has risen significantly each year since 2002/03. In 2007/08, the latest year for which data is available, expenditure rose by 7% while the overall caseload fell.
- 7 The continuing rise in HB expenditure on temporary accommodation is something we have been looking at, in consultation with local authority representatives, in the context of the review.

- 8 Given that local authorities in London have had two reductions in their thresholds and caps in the last two years and that there is little evidence of excessive expenditure outside London; the thresholds and caps for London authorities will be frozen at the 2008/09 levels and, for authorities outside London, the thresholds and caps will be increased by 5%, in line with inflation.
- 9 The thresholds and caps for 2009/10 are shown in *Appendix A*.

Non-Housing Revenue Account rent rebate subsidy thresholds and caps for 2009/10 (£/week)

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Adur	123.51	218.59
Allerdale	99.14	175.12
Alnwick	85.94	152.49
Amber Valley	99.63	176.19
Arun	129.28	228.35
Ashfield	93.56	165.44
Ashford	122.76	217.07
Aylesbury Vale	118.70	210.39
Babergh	113.61	200.88
Barking and Dagenham	191.10	303.80
Barnet	191.10	303.80
Barnsley	83.11	148.00
Barrow in Furness	103.70	183.36
Basildon	120.70	213.42
Basingstoke and Deane	122.92	217.14
Bassetlaw	104.30	184.43
Bath & NE Somerset	105.75	186.80
Bedford	97.90	173.55
Berwick upon Tweed	93.03	164.48
Bexley	191.10	303.80
Birmingham	100.24	177.75
Blaby	89.33	158.30
Blackburn with Darwen	114.39	202.05
Blackpool	95.27	172.92
Blyth Valley	78.77	139.65
Bolsover	81.23	146.64
Bolton	85.81	153.11
Boston	89.47	158.39

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Bournemouth	107.53	202.08
Bracknell Forest	133.56	240.01
Bradford	90.51	170.09
Braintree	109.87	194.28
Breckland	112.36	199.19
Brent	191.10	321.29
Brentwood	124.55	220.25
Bridgnorth	101.27	180.41
Brighton and Hove	111.13	218.36
Bristol	97.89	193.54
Broadland	112.36	199.19
Bromley	191.10	303.80
Bromsgrove	104.42	192.96
Broxbourne	132.80	234.83
Broxtowe	85.43	152.34
Burnley	101.59	179.45
Bury	98.94	174.96
Calderdale	87.94	155.59
Cambridge	116.98	206.85
Camden	191.10	319.83
Cannock Chase	104.88	191.79
Canterbury	117.96	208.56
Caradon	99.42	175.80
Carlisle	96.75	171.07
Carrick	113.22	200.20
Castle Morpeth	93.33	165.04
Castle Point	128.42	227.06
Charnwood	89.89	158.97
Chelmsford	125.69	223.06
Cheltenham	127.66	225.72

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Cherwell	123.76	219.15
Chester	93.45	165.06
Chester le Street	86.39	153.25
Chesterfield	85.77	151.67
Chichester	124.40	219.73
Chiltern	122.92	217.14
Chorley	88.01	156.48
Christchurch	105.75	198.52
City of London	191.10	303.80
Colchester	115.76	206.37
Congleton	99.14	175.12
Copeland	93.15	176.96
Corby	95.99	175.40
Cotswold	105.75	186.80
Coventry	85.27	167.35
Craven	105.13	185.89
Crawley	133.08	236.16
Crewe and Nantwich	104.90	193.20
Croydon	191.10	315.58
Dacorum	116.52	208.64
Darlington	91.31	161.45
Dartford	120.59	213.23
Daventry	95.89	169.54
Derby	94.70	167.48
Derbyshire Dales	96.15	170.38
Derwentside	94.20	166.56
Doncaster	86.39	155.35
Dover	122.79	217.12
Dudley	100.57	180.44
Durham	88.95	159.38

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Ealing	191.10	307.48
Easington	91.57	161.91
East Cambridgeshire	112.36	199.19
East Devon	95.98	180.37
East Dorset	105.75	198.52
East Hampshire	122.92	217.14
East Hertfordshire	134.30	238.32
East Lindsey	92.21	163.22
East Northamptonshire	103.01	182.35
East Riding	92.04	167.10
East Staffordshire	89.80	158.61
Eastbourne	110.59	207.85
Eastleigh	122.92	217.14
Eden	99.14	175.12
Ellesmere Port and Neston	77.25	156.93
Elmbridge	140.21	247.64
Enfield	191.10	303.80
Epping Forest	119.01	211.02
Epsom and Ewell	122.92	217.14
Erewash	88.17	156.24
Exeter	92.97	174.72
Fareham	116.50	210.15
Fenland	105.59	186.72
Forest Heath	103.99	183.89
Forest of Dean	101.35	179.20
Fylde	86.64	153.02
Gateshead	91.65	162.08
Gedling	87.30	155.02
Gloucester	110.68	195.71
Gosport	114.25	202.03

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Gravesham	116.59	206.18
Great Yarmouth	87.73	164.87
Greenwich	191.10	303.80
Guildford	140.77	248.93
Hackney	191.10	304.23
Halton	91.17	167.01
Hambleton	87.23	164.01
Hammersmith and Fulham	191.10	303.80
Harborough	108.24	191.39
Haringey	191.10	303.80
Harlow	114.89	203.14
Harrogate	111.90	197.88
Harrow	191.10	333.83
Hart	122.92	217.14
Hartlepool	94.67	167.40
Hastings	122.92	217.14
Havant	122.92	217.14
Havering	191.10	303.80
Herefordshire	94.12	166.45
Hertsmere	112.36	199.19
High Peak	101.79	179.98
Hillingdon	191.10	335.66
Hinckley and Bosworth	98.28	173.80
Horsham	145.33	256.69
Hounslow	191.10	303.80
Huntingdon	121.72	215.78
Hyndburn	98.12	173.32
Ipswich	104.71	185.14
Isle of Wight	122.92	217.14
Isles of Scilly	109.28	193.24

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Islington	191.10	314.77
Kennet	105.75	186.80
Kensington and Chelsea	191.10	346.84
Kerrier	105.75	186.80
Kettering	94.72	168.87
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	92.00	171.41
Kingston upon Hull	95.16	174.59
Kingston upon Thames	191.10	326.21
Kirklees	96.45	170.57
Knowsley	107.12	189.42
Lambeth	191.10	303.80
Lancaster	95.39	168.66
Leeds	87.58	165.00
Leicester	97.15	171.61
Lewes	119.27	212.35
Lewisham	191.10	303.80
Lichfield	97.46	172.16
Lincoln	91.94	162.57
Liverpool	97.78	172.92
Luton	120.28	212.69
Macclesfield	108.26	207.73
Maidstone	122.12	215.92
Maldon	112.36	199.19
Malvern Hills	97.46	172.16
Manchester	114.63	202.68
Mansfield	98.40	173.81
Medway	120.59	213.23
Melton	88.35	160.45
Mendip	104.19	184.05
Merton	191.10	303.80

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Mid Bedfordshire	111.64	198.11
Mid Devon	98.98	175.05
Mid Suffolk	105.59	186.72
Mid Sussex	122.92	217.14
Middlesbrough	103.59	183.18
Milton Keynes	120.07	213.21
Mole Valley	119.51	211.32
New Forest	132.41	234.14
Newark and Sherwood	91.94	162.56
Newcastle under Lyme	82.64	162.20
Newcastle upon Tyne	90.05	159.22
Newham	191.10	303.80
North Cornwall	99.81	176.48
North Devon	115.45	203.92
North Dorset	105.75	186.80
North East Derby	83.86	152.08
North East Lincoln	90.10	164.89
North Hertfordshire	120.81	220.04
North Kesteven	91.91	162.50
North Lincolnshire	87.22	154.80
North Norfolk	97.07	171.86
North Shropshire	91.25	162.37
North Somerset	121.72	215.22
North Tyneside	84.26	149.81
North Warwickshire	96.16	172.79
North West Leicestershire	90.96	160.84
North Wiltshire	105.75	186.80
Northampton	119.60	211.46
Norwich	94.77	168.16
Nottingham	88.16	155.89

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Nuneaton and Bedworth	93.25	166.57
Oadby and Wigston	89.66	159.42
Oldham	87.94	164.65
Oswestry	94.04	166.28
Oxford	128.85	230.01
Pendle	91.59	161.97
Penwith	99.31	186.44
Peterborough	119.78	211.82
Plymouth	96.67	170.93
Poole	109.75	206.03
Portsmouth	116.64	206.23
Preston	99.74	176.35
Purbeck	122.00	215.70
Reading	142.45	251.88
Redbridge	191.10	308.85
Redcar and Cleveland	99.06	175.15
Redditch	105.54	186.63
Reigate and Banstead	138.52	244.92
Restormel	113.57	200.60
Ribble Valley	86.06	152.17
Richmond upon Thames	191.10	303.80
Richmondshire	102.07	180.47
Rochdale	91.46	161.72
Rochford	109.01	192.74
Rossendale	92.62	163.60
Rother	122.92	217.14
Rotherham	77.32	142.49
Rugby	98.86	175.93
Runnymede	145.50	257.28
Rushcliffe	101.30	180.82

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Rushmoor	122.92	217.14
Rutland	108.05	191.06
Ryedale	87.23	164.01
Salford	101.18	178.90
Salisbury	128.07	232.34
Sandwell	108.90	194.23
Scarborough	103.89	183.69
Sedgefield	89.52	158.74
Sedgemoor	111.99	198.03
Sefton	102.91	182.24
Selby	97.43	172.29
Sevenoaks	122.92	217.14
Sheffield	87.94	155.62
Shepway	112.70	199.27
Shrewsbury and Atcham	99.87	176.59
Slough	128.37	229.41
Solihull	104.55	184.87
South Bedfordshire	125.65	223.49
South Bucks	122.92	217.14
South Cambridgeshire	125.88	222.60
South Derbyshire	98.92	174.90
South Gloucestershire	107.81	194.41
South Hams	105.75	186.80
South Holland	93.82	165.90
South Kesteven	96.89	173.47
South Lakeland	111.44	202.90
South Norfolk	102.07	180.47
South Northamptonshire	111.38	198.50
South Oxfordshire	122.92	217.14
South Ribble	99.14	175.12

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
South Shropshire	97.46	172.16
South Somerset	105.75	186.80
South Staffordshire	97.46	172.16
South Tyneside	82.03	146.95
Southampton	102.93	202.21
Southend on Sea	111.76	197.62
Southwark	191.10	303.80
Spelthorne	122.92	217.14
St Albans	123.96	220.79
St Edmundsbury	111.34	197.60
St Helens	105.67	186.85
Stafford	97.46	172.16
Staffordshire Moorlands	94.78	167.42
Stevenage	122.77	217.08
Stockport	89.74	176.69
Stockton on Tees	93.99	167.70
Stoke on Trent	93.80	165.84
Stratford on Avon	97.46	172.16
Stroud	112.38	198.71
Suffolk Coastal	101.99	180.79
Sunderland	101.89	179.99
Surrey Heath	122.92	217.14
Sutton	191.10	303.80
Swale	122.92	217.14
Swindon	100.15	179.08
Tameside	104.13	183.93
Tamworth	102.23	182.02
Tandridge	122.67	218.74
Taunton Deane	99.69	176.26
Teesdale	91.40	161.62

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Teignbridge	117.87	208.44
Telford and Wrekin	97.46	172.16
Tendring	102.90	193.39
Test Valley	119.49	211.05
Tewkesbury	97.51	172.24
Thanet	111.67	197.45
Three Rivers	126.59	225.54
Thurrock	119.16	210.68
Tonbridge and Malling	122.92	217.14
Torbay	108.84	192.26
Torrige	107.70	190.43
Tower Hamlets	191.10	327.78
Trafford	100.74	178.12
Tunbridge Wells	122.92	217.14
Tynedale	98.25	173.54
Uttlesford	123.19	217.90
Vale Of White Horse	122.92	217.14
Vale Royal	99.69	176.27
Wakefield	88.02	168.09
Walsall	100.25	177.29
Waltham Forest	191.10	322.08
Wandsworth	191.10	341.95
Wansbeck	77.77	137.52
Warrington	100.10	176.99
Warwick	106.19	190.27
Watford	123.28	217.97
Waveney	96.92	171.37
Waverley	133.58	235.96
Wealden	104.80	205.89
Wear Valley	90.53	160.06

Local authority		
England	Threshold	Cap
Wellingborough	98.69	174.49
Welwyn Hatfield	115.76	207.92
West Berkshire	122.92	217.14
West Devon	105.75	186.80
West Dorset	105.75	186.80
West Lancashire	93.59	166.90
West Lindsey	91.05	161.19
West Oxfordshire	117.83	208.15
West Somerset	105.75	186.80
West Wiltshire	120.79	213.36
Westminster	191.10	375.44
Weymouth and Portland	109.50	193.43
Wigan	93.88	166.01
Winchester	123.41	218.21
Windsor and Maidenhead	122.92	217.14
Wirral	109.59	193.77
Woking	158.97	281.11
Wokingham	124.20	225.80
Wolverhampton	91.05	172.17
Worcester	93.88	167.79
Worthing	122.92	217.14
Wychavon	122.69	216.70
Wycombe	141.25	249.75
Wyre	99.54	175.81
Wyre Forest	101.39	179.09
York	103.14	182.36

Local authority		
Wales	Threshold	Cap
Blaenau Gwent	96.23	170.14
Bridgend	97.66	172.69
Caerphilly	103.23	182.52
Cardiff	108.59	193.10
Carmarthenshire	94.24	166.64
Ceredigion	103.29	182.64
Conwy	90.85	167.95
Denbighshire	88.36	157.75
Flintshire	93.96	166.36
Gwynedd	93.59	165.47
Isle of Anglesey	92.27	163.15
Merthyr Tydfil	93.63	165.56
Monmouthshire	108.41	193.01
Neath Port Talbot	94.91	167.83
Newport	102.78	184.05
Pembrokeshire	92.25	163.11
Powys	96.75	171.33
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	92.09	162.82
Swansea	98.39	173.97
Torfaen	106.83	190.64
Vale Of Glamorgan	110.87	196.06
Wrexham	88.12	156.30

Local authority		
Scotland	Threshold	Cap
Aberdeen	83.63	149.48
Aberdeenshire	78.84	143.43
Angus	73.78	136.28
Argyll and Bute	89.91	159.00
Clackmannanshire	79.23	149.71
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	92.99	166.51
Dumfries and Galloway	84.35	151.85
Dundee	91.68	163.76
East Ayrshire	80.69	142.81
East Dunbartonshire	86.25	156.39
East Lothian	77.56	137.15
East Renfrewshire	82.76	155.46
Edinburgh	105.41	186.39
Falkirk	84.03	158.15
Fife	79.94	146.63
Glasgow	106.81	188.86
Highland	98.09	173.43
Inverclyde	104.53	179.09
Midlothian	70.33	124.37
Moray	71.13	125.76
North Ayrshire	75.59	137.05
North Lanarkshire	88.04	157.63
Orkney Islands	82.44	145.75
Perth & Kinross	74.84	132.34
Renfrewshire	91.49	170.85
Scottish Borders	79.62	140.77
Shetland	107.31	189.75
South Ayrshire	82.11	145.16
South Lanarkshire	90.11	159.34
Stirling	84.93	150.16
West Dunbartonshire	84.60	149.60
West Lothian	86.92	182.16