

Cost of Living Payments Announced

The Chancellor has just announced the following

£650 (paid in two lumps to their bank account) cost of living payment payable to those who on 25th May 2022 are in receipt of:

- Universal Credit
- JSA(IB)
- ESA(IR)
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Pension Credit
- And those who began a claim on 25th May and was successful

This payment will be Tax Free, not affect the Benefit cap and not be taken into account in existing benefit payments

First payment will be in July and the second in the autumn

£300 for all pensioner households as a top up to the Winter Fuel Allowance in November/December. This will apply to those who are 66 or over between 19-25th September 2022. Non-taxable and has no effect on eligibility for other benefits and can be paid on top of any other one off support.

£150 \disability cost of living payment

This is payable to anyone who on 25th May 2022 is in receipt of DLA, PIP Attendance Allowance, Scottish disability payment, and AFIP (Armed Forces Independence Payment, Constant Attendance Allowance or War pension mobility supplement. This will be paid from September. Tax free. Not count to the Benefit cap. Will not have any effect on existing benefit awards.

£500 million extra funding for the Household Support Fund for October – March 2023.

In a previous announcement the Government had announced that £200 would come off fuel bills this autumn and would be repayable over five years. This is now scrapped and replaced with £400 energy support scheme **which will not be repayable**. This will be delivered through suppliers from October to those with domestic electricity meters through direct debit customer's account. Those with pre-payment meters will receive this help through the meter or pre-paid vouchers