
Home Safety Grants for Home Owners

This leaflet is a guide to some of the financial help available for home owners on a low income in the Cheshire West and Chester region who need urgent repairs to their home.

www.homeassistancehub.co.uk



Home Safety Grants for Home Owners

If you are a home owner on a low income and are living in a property that needs urgent repairs, you may qualify for financial assistance from the Council to help get the work done.

This leaflet details the type of financial help that is available.

Home Safety Grant

This is a discretionary grant to carry out urgent repairs where there is a serious risk to your health, safety and welfare.

For example:

- serious electrical defects where there is an imminent risk of fire or electrocution
- excessive cold due to lack of heating, where no other grant funding is available. (Consideration will be given to the age and health of the occupiers and the suitability of temporary forms of heating)
- risk of imminent structural collapse of part of the building
- serious disrepair causing extensive rain penetration
- serious security problems

The amount of grant available depends on the work required to remove the hazard and your financial situation. The maximum grant is £5000.

You may be offered a loan for works that are not assessed as an imminent risk.

Who can apply for a Home Safety Grant?

You must be the owner or part-owner of the property and it must be your main residence.

All applicants are subject to a test of resources.

You must be on a low wage / income or in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- income support or income based job seekers allowance
- guaranteed element of pension credit
- child tax credit where the assessed income is less than £15,050
- working tax credit where the assessed income is less than £15,050
- housing benefit
- income related employment and support allowance

Where else can I obtain advice and assistance?

Home Assistance Hub (HAH) offers confidential advice, support and assistance to home owners to help them to stay in their home in comfort and safety.

As well as helping home owners to apply for grants, they run a handy person scheme, advise on reliable contractors and oversee all aspects of repair or improvement work in general.

What is a test of resources?

The test of resources will normally apply to the person making the application and their spouse or partner.

The test of resources calculates your average weekly income, taking account of any savings above a Government set threshold of £6,000. This threshold is reviewed on an annual basis and is subject to change.

Your total income is then set against an assessment of your basic outgoings, which are recognised by a range of allowances.

The calculated figure is then used to determine whether you need to make a contribution to the grant. If you are on a low income, or in receipt of one of the benefits mentioned earlier, you will not normally have to make a contribution towards the cost of the works, although this may be affected if your spouse/partner has an income.



How will my property be assessed?

A Technical Officer from the Home Assistance Hub (HAH) will inspect your property to check the works required and also to look for other hazards that present a risk to the health and safety of the occupiers.

A schedule of work will be prepared, which will detail the works that are required to remove the hazards.

What conditions apply if my application is successful?

A condition requiring repayment of the grant if the applicant vacates or sells the property may be applied, dependant on the details of each individual case.



How do I apply for the grant?

Application forms are available from:



Unit 2, Rossmore Business Village,
Inward Way, Ellesmere Port, CH65 3EY

0300 123 2010

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