

DHP Period of Award Matrix

This document is for guidance only- each case will be considered on its own merits

Discretionary Housing Payment Priority Groups	Short Term/ Long Term and Review
Adapted Properties Customers who have had their property significantly adapted to meet their disability needs	Long term As long as the disability remains the same, review annually
Benefit Cap Customers subject to the Benefit Cap	Up to 26 weeks at full amount Consideration of a further 13 weeks at reduced amount in exceptional circumstances
Social Sector Size Criteria (SSSC/Under Occupancy) Customers subject to the social sector size criteria with no special circumstances	Up to 13 weeks Signpost to Housing team and any relevant support services to explore option to move to smaller accommodation Further 13 weeks to be considered dependant on proactivity of customer
Foster Carers Customers affected by the SSSC due to the number of foster children changing	Long Term As long as foster status remains, review annually
Medical Equipment Customers requiring an extra bedroom to store medical equipment	Long Term As long as medical status remains, review annually
Under 35's In privately rented accommodation where LHA "Shared Room Rate" is applied	Up to 13 weeks Consideration of a further 13 weeks if demonstrated seeking suitable alternative accommodation

Appendix 6a

<p>Expectant Mothers</p> <p>Over 16 weeks, who cannot be expected to seek alternative accommodation</p>	<p>Up to 30 weeks if there is a risk to health or either mother or baby</p>
<p>Customers within 12 months of Pensionable age</p> <p>Where work is not a realistic option</p>	<p>Up to 52 weeks</p> <p>One off award up to pensionable age</p>
<p>Hardship</p> <p>Customers affected by hardship due to welfare reform, low income, debt</p>	<p>Up to 26 weeks</p> <p>Signpost to Council Debt Advisors and Housing team</p> <p>Consideration of a further award up to 26 weeks if demonstrated engagement with debt advisors and seeking suitable alternative accommodation where appropriate</p>
<p>Threat of Eviction</p> <p>Customers who are at risk of losing their property through eviction</p>	<p>At the discretion of a senior manager who has looked at all the factors surrounding the eviction</p> <p>Awards will not be made where customers have received a previous award to prevent eviction and homelessness.</p>
<p>Moving may be Unreasonable</p> <p>Customer suffering a serious medical condition</p> <p>Child may be at a critical point in their education</p>	<p>Up to 52 weeks</p> <p>Future awards to be based on updated circumstances</p>
<p>Multiple Awards</p> <p>Where consecutive awards have been made for 2 years or more or where more than 3 awards have been made in a 2 year period</p>	<p>No further awards will be made unless a customer can demonstrate that they are continuing to improve their circumstances, then a maximum 13 weeks may be agreed.</p> <p>Does not apply to long term recipients</p>