

Supported by Kent County Council's Helping Hands Scheme

Helping Hands

Supporting households facing financial hardship as a direct result of COVID-19



REQUEST SUPPORT

About the scheme

The 'Helping Hands' scheme offers fuel vouchers towards the cost of heating bills and essential items related to keeping warm. The vouchers will support households facing financial hardship as a direct result of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Applicants can apply for up to 3 vouchers towards heating bills (must have a top-up meter) or essential items such as:

- boiler repairs
- temporary heaters
- thick curtains
- blankets (at the discretion of district and borough council officers.)

Evidence needed

For payments toward heating bills, or high cost support, such as boiler repairs, applicants may need to provide proof of income.

We won't need proof of income for support toward items such as blankets or curtains.

Eligibility

Any applicants must:

- be aged 16 or over
- have a household income less than £30,000
- have no savings or support from other sources
- live in Kent.

(If they pay Council Tax to Medway Council, they'll need to contact Medway's Local Welfare Provision scheme)

You need to check that the applicant has suffered a loss of income as a direct result of COVID-19. (For example, being put on furlough, reduced trade or business, increased heating bills by working from home.)

For more information email: tracy.veasey@kent.gov.uk, or hannah.chandler@kent.gov.uk

Make a referral

Referrals can only be made by professionals or trusted partners

Call: 0800 233 5255 Visit: <u>https://south.greendoctors.org.uk/</u>