STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No. 1079

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Amendment Order 2026

Made - - - -	*at 9.30 a.m. on 13th October 2026*
Laid before Parliament	*at 4.30 p.m. on 13th October 2026*
Coming into force - -	*5th November 2026*

The Secretary of State makes this Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 140B(1), (3), (4) and (4A), 140C(1), (1A), (2) and (4), 140F(2) and 189(1), (4), (6) and (7) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992(**a**).

In accordance with section 189(8) of that Act(**b**), the Secretary of State has obtained the consent of the Treasury.

In accordance with section 176(1)(b) of that Act(**c**), the Secretary of State has consulted with organisations appearing to the Secretary of State to be representative of the authorities concerned.

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Amendment Order 2026 and comes into force on 5th November 2026.

(2) This Order extends to England and Wales and Scotland.

(**a**) 1992 c. 5. Sections 140B, 140C and 140F were inserted by paragraph 4 of Schedule 12 to the Housing Act 1996 (c. 52). Section 140B(1) was amended by paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Act 1997 (c. 47) ("the Fraud Act"). Section 140B(4) was substituted and section 140B(4A) was inserted by section 10 of the Fraud Act. Section 140C(1A) was inserted by paragraph 37 of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2003 (c. 26). Sections 140B, 140C and 140F were repealed by Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (c. 5) so far as they relate to the abolition of council tax benefit. There are amendments to section 189(1), (4) and (6) which are not relevant to this Order. Section 189(7) was amended by paragraph 24 of Schedule 9 to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (c. 14) and by paragraph 10 of Schedule 1 to the Fraud Act.

(**b**) Relevant amendments were made by paragraph 3(5) of Schedule 13 to the Housing Act 1996 and paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the Tax Credits Act 2002 (c. 21).

(**c**) Section 176(1)(b) was amended by paragraph 3(4) of Schedule 13 to the Housing Act 1996.

Amendment of the Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Order 1998 and application of amendments

2.—(1) The Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Order 1998(**a**) is amended in accordance with articles 3 to 7.

(2) Articles 3, 5 and 6 and the Schedule apply for the purpose of determining subsidy payable for the relevant year(**b**) beginning on 1st April 2025.

(3) Article 4 applies for the purpose of determining subsidy payable for any relevant year beginning on or after 1st April 2025.

(4) Article 7 applies for the purpose of determining subsidy payable for the relevant year beginning on 1st April 2026.

Housing Benefit Assurance Process

3. In article 2 (interpretation of Parts 2 and 4), in the definition of "HBAP", for "28th April 2025" substitute "2nd April 2026"(**c**).

Additional amount of subsidy: Verify Earnings and Pension Alerts Service

4.—(1) In article 12(1) (amount of subsidy)(**d**), omit sub-paragraph (bza) and the "and" immediately after it.

(2) Omit Schedule 1ZB (additional amount of subsidy: Verify Earnings and Pension Alerts Service)(**e**).

The amount of an authority's subsidy

5. For Schedule 1 (sums to be used in the calculation of subsidy) substitute the Schedule 1 set out in the Schedule to this Order.

Additional amount of subsidy: Housing Benefit Award Accuracy Initiative

6. In Schedule 1ZC (additional amount of subsidy: Housing Benefit Award Accuracy Initiative)—

(a) in paragraph 1 (interpretation), in the definition of "HBAAI", for "Housing Benefit Circular HB A5/2024" to the end of that definition substitute "Housing Benefit Circular HB A7/2025 first published by the Department for Work and Pensions on 24th April 2025"(**f**);

(b) in paragraph 2 (additional amount: relevant year beginning with 1st April 2024)—

(i) in the heading, for "1st April 2024", substitute "1st April 2025";

(ii) for "1st April 2024", substitute "1st April 2025";

(**a**) S.I. 1998/562; relevant amending instruments are S.I. 2004/646, 2015/1784, 2018/985, 2021/1031, 2023/1040, 2024/1092 and 2025/1077.

(**b**) See article 1(2) of S.I. 1998/562 for the meaning of "relevant year". See section 140G of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 for the definition of "year".

(**c**) See, in relation to the financial year ending March 2026, https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/housing-benefit-assurance-process-hbap. The relevant HBAP publication is contained in HBAP Module 1 and Module 6.

(**d**) Article 12(1) was substituted by S.I. 2015/1784 and sub-paragraph (bza) was inserted by S.I. 2018/985.

(**e**) Schedule 1ZB was inserted by S.I. 2018/985 and substituted by S.I. 2023/1040.

(**f**) See https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/housing-benefit-adjudication-circulars-2025/a72025-housing-benefit-award-accuracy-initiative-for-the-financial-year-ending-march-2026.

(iii) for "Housing Benefit Circular" to the end substitute "Housing Benefit Circular HB S4/2025 first published by the Department for Work and Pensions on 24th April 2025"(**a**).

Rent rebate deductions from the subsidy of an authority in Wales

7. In Schedule 4A (rent rebate limitation deductions (Housing Revenue Account dwellings): authorities in Wales)—

(a) in paragraph 3(2), for "1st April 2025 is 0.369" substitute "1st April 2026 is 0.332";

(b) for paragraph 4, but not including the heading, substitute—

"4. The amounts for the relevant year beginning on 1st April 2026 for the purposes of paragraph 2 are as follows—

Local authority	*(1) Specified amount "O" (£)*	*(2) Guideline rent increase "P" (£)*
Caerphilly County Borough Council	124.93	4.74
Cardiff City Council	140.72	5.59
Carmarthenshire County Council	123.91	4.71
Denbighshire County Council	124.81	4.83
Flintshire County Council	132.16	5.29
Isle of Anglesey County Council	127.25	6.37
Pembrokeshire County Council	127.86	4.86
Powys County Council	128.34	5.19
Swansea City Council	125.25	4.92
Vale of Glamorgan Council	140.60	5.63
Wrexham County Borough Council	128.81	4.90".

(**a**) See https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/housing-benefit-subsidy-circulars-2025/s42025-housing-benefit-award-accuracy-initiative-funding-for-the-financial-year-ending-march-2026-for-local-authorities-participating-from-1-april-2.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

Stephen Timms
Minister of State
At 9.30 a.m. on 13th October 2026 Department for Work and Pensions

We consent

Claire Hughes
Christian Wakeford
12th October 2026 Two of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury

SCHEDULE

Article 5

Substitution of Schedule 1 to the Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Order 1998

"SCHEDULE 1

Article 12(1)(b)

Sums to be used in the calculation of subsidy

Relevant Year 2025-2026

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
England	
Adur District Council	139,434
Amber Valley Borough Council	283,355
Arun District Council	358,393
Ashfield District Council	323,223
Ashford Borough Council	296,950
Babergh District Council	159,774
London Borough of Barking and Dagenham	733,662
London Borough of Barnet	1,277,392
Barnsley Borough Council	739,570
Basildon District Council	515,869
Basingstoke and Deane District Council	332,245
Bassetlaw District Council	278,022
Bath and North East Somerset Council	376,094
Bedford Borough Council	440,439
London Borough of Bexley	514,523
Birmingham City Council	5,464,583
Blaby District Council	126,462
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	439,970
Blackpool Borough Council	633,791

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
Bolsover District Council	216,713
Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council	874,853
Boston Borough Council	167,912
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council	1,070,106
Bracknell Forest Borough Council	227,320
Bradford Metropolitan Borough Council	1,407,851
Braintree District Council	309,069
Breckland District Council	288,195
London Borough of Brent	1,435,546
Brentwood District Council	113,020
Brighton and Hove Council	1,024,719
Bristol City Council	1,466,542
Broadland District Council	182,300
London Borough of Bromley	771,589
Bromsgrove District Council	146,878
Broxbourne Borough Council	221,571
Broxtowe Council	213,241
Buckinghamshire Council	880,603
Burnley Borough Council	311,854
Bury Metropolitan Borough Council	476,563
Calderdale Borough Council	563,314
Cambridge City Council	300,979
London Borough of Camden	1,356,555
Cannock Chase District Council	229,353
Canterbury City Council	347,784
Castle Point District Council	155,691
Central Bedfordshire Council	496,719
Charnwood Borough Council	291,905
Chelmsford Borough Council	336,157
Cheltenham Borough Council	247,827

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
Cherwell District Council	266,687
Cheshire East Council	693,117
Cheshire West and Chester Council	798,614
Chesterfield Borough Council	347,094
Chichester District Council	258,255
Chorley Borough Council	234,140
City of London	52,793
Colchester Borough Council	391,763
Cornwall Council	1,523,069
Cotswold District Council	155,543
Coventry City Council	1,004,613
Crawley Borough Council	332,482
London Borough of Croydon	1,303,004
Cumberland Council	690,816
Dacorum Borough Council	376,150
Darlington Borough Council	324,262
Dartford Borough Council	207,630
Derby City Council	739,651
Derbyshire Dales District Council	118,114
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council	908,160
Dorset Council	819,746
Dover District Council	314,211
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	780,474
Durham County Council	1,789,547
London Borough of Ealing	1,373,909
East Cambridgeshire District Council	154,359
East Devon District Council	272,836
East Hampshire District Council	176,657
East Hertfordshire District Council	241,187
East Lindsey District Council	411,653

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	641,528
East Staffordshire Borough Council	217,048
East Suffolk Council	592,563
Eastbourne Borough Council	364,999
Eastleigh Borough Council	225,406
Elmbridge Borough Council	253,013
London Borough of Enfield	1,359,078
Epping Forest District Council	266,048
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council	135,077
Erewash Borough Council	272,177
Exeter City Council	335,667
Fareham Borough Council	155,047
Fenland District Council	254,956
Folkestone and Hythe District Council	312,844
Forest of Dean District Council	184,101
Fylde Borough Council	178,521
Gateshead Borough Council	750,920
Gedling Borough Council	225,517
Gloucester City Council	328,509
Gosport Borough Council	210,351
Gravesham Borough Council	240,715
Great Yarmouth Council	340,583
Royal Borough of Greenwich	1,336,566
Guildford Borough Council	233,519
London Borough of Hackney	2,039,340
Halton Borough Council	453,062
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham	1,006,544
Harborough District Council	112,635
London Borough of Haringey	1,314,656
Harlow District Council	280,668

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
Harrow Council	653,974
Hart District Council	103,199
Hartlepool Borough Council	396,281
Hastings Borough Council	400,824
Havant Borough Council	224,163
London Borough of Havering	541,264
Herefordshire Council	397,950
Hertsmere Borough Council	243,786
High Peak Borough Council	197,749
London Borough of Hillingdon	823,944
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council	173,293
Horsham District Council	228,322
London Borough of Hounslow	856,541
Huntingdonshire District Council	294,820
Hyndburn Borough Council	268,832
Ipswich Borough Council	411,377
Isle of Wight Council	421,144
Council of the Isles of Scilly	1,633
London Borough of Islington	1,524,275
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea	980,467
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council	334,941
Hull City Council	1,154,817
Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames	397,831
Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council	1,058,351
Knowsley Borough Council	646,809
London Borough of Lambeth	1,856,729
Lancaster City Council	350,747
Leeds City Council	2,224,871
Leicester City Council	1,003,941
Lewes District Council	237,591

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
London Borough of Lewisham	1,540,725
Lichfield District Council	172,380
City of Lincoln Council	307,359
Liverpool City Council	2,379,484
Luton Borough Council	573,814
Maidstone Borough Council	326,241
Maldon District Council	112,736
Malvern Hills District Council	151,742
Manchester City Council	2,296,060
Mansfield District Council	325,803
Medway Council	641,746
Melton Borough Council	82,727
London Borough of Merton	505,429
Mid Devon District Council	156,443
Mid Suffolk District Council	151,267
Mid Sussex District Council	223,390
Middlesbrough Council	564,697
Milton Keynes Borough Council	733,622
Mole Valley District Council	162,247
New Forest District Council	325,842
Newark and Sherwood District Council	264,506
Newcastle-Under-Lyme Borough Council	280,692
Newcastle City Council	1,113,692
London Borough of Newham	1,565,849
North Devon District Council	237,599
North East Derbyshire District Council	251,186
North East Lincolnshire Council	491,307
North Hertfordshire District Council	253,407
North Kesteven District Council	187,690
North Lincolnshire Council	394,836

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
North Norfolk District Council	245,468
North Northamptonshire Council	724,215
North Somerset Council	497,591
North Tyneside Borough Council	662,822
North Warwickshire District Council	126,715
North West Leicestershire District Council	172,236
North Yorkshire Council	1,204,650
Northumberland County Council	835,450
Norwich City Council	569,271
Nottingham City Council	1,248,736
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council	319,487
Oadby and Wigston Borough Council	79,454
Oldham Borough Council	689,591
Oxford City Council	388,814
Pendle Borough Council	220,470
Peterborough City Council	577,194
Plymouth City Council	854,004
Portsmouth City Council	804,480
Preston Borough Council	410,910
Reading Borough Council	474,154
London Borough of Redbridge	810,401
Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	478,990
Redditch Borough Council	207,786
Reigate and Banstead Borough Council	264,799
Ribble Valley Borough Council	73,717
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames	424,410
Rochdale Borough Council	752,275
Rochford District Council	121,760
Rossendale Borough Council	170,714
Rother District Council	221,356

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
Rotherham Borough Council	813,583
Rugby Borough Council	190,783
Runnymede Borough Council	147,612
Rushcliffe Borough Council	156,471
Rushmoor Borough Council	259,781
Rutland County Council	55,594
Salford City Council	1,064,777
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	1,034,505
Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council	888,107
Sevenoaks District Council	217,483
Sheffield City Council	1,768,265
Shropshire Council	655,570
Slough Borough Council	406,585
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	447,845
Somerset Council	1,251,926
South Cambridgeshire District Council	228,589
South Derbyshire District Council	156,301
South Gloucestershire Council	440,852
South Hams District Council	184,657
South Holland District Council	161,462
South Kesteven District Council	270,917
South Norfolk District Council	224,938
South Oxfordshire District Council	206,764
South Ribble Borough Council	181,882
South Staffordshire District Council	205,748
South Tyneside Council	666,320
Southampton City Council	827,021
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council	567,642
London Borough of Southwark	1,748,278
Spelthorne Borough Council	199,254

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
St Albans District Council	233,066
St Helens Borough Council	592,243
Stafford Borough Council	228,786
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council	142,378
Stevenage Borough Council	248,806
Stockport Borough Council	643,678
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	553,127
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	842,675
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	233,823
Stroud District Council	216,697
Sunderland City Council	1,122,884
Surrey Heath Borough Council	120,480
London Borough of Sutton	535,925
Swale Borough Council	371,169
Swindon Borough Council	526,080
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council	762,755
Tamworth Borough Council	178,181
Tandridge District Council	155,734
Teignbridge District Council	288,551
Telford and Wrekin Council	560,008
Tendring District Council	438,175
Test Valley Borough Council	218,258
Tewkesbury Borough Council	151,332
Thanet District Council	477,464
Three Rivers Council	169,602
Thurrock Borough Council	399,104
Tonbridge and Malling District Council	242,341
Torbay Council	465,590
Torridge District Council	155,259
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	1,797,888

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council	516,999
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	226,201
Uttlesford District Council	134,899
Vale of White Horse District Council	205,797
Wakefield Council	1,073,923
Walsall Borough Council	847,538
London Borough of Waltham Forest	865,136
London Borough of Wandsworth	1,335,428
Warrington Borough Council	475,902
Warwick District Council	252,529
Watford Borough Council	246,194
Waverley Borough Council	211,995
Wealden District Council	236,555
Welwyn Hatfield District Council	318,085
West Berkshire Council	293,291
West Devon Borough Council	109,584
West Lancashire District Council	255,991
West Lindsey District Council	213,381
West Northamptonshire Council	771,832
West Oxfordshire District Council	175,454
West Suffolk Council	347,897
City of Westminster	1,469,906
Westmorland and Furness Council	429,924
Wigan Council	899,833
Wiltshire Council	895,439
Winchester City Council	219,457
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead	240,919
Wirral Borough Council	1,127,673
Woking Borough Council	188,604
Wokingham District Council	172,685

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
Wolverhampton City Council	869,413
Worcester City Council	235,202
Worthing Borough Council	280,166
Wychavon District Council	240,197
Wyre Borough Council	267,936
Wyre Forest District Council	264,837
City of York Council	337,687
Wales	
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	293,453
Bridgend County Borough Council	426,168
Caerphilly County Borough Council	612,364
Cardiff City Council	1,157,889
Carmarthenshire County Council	496,728
Ceredigion Council	178,207
Conwy County Borough Council	362,180
Denbighshire County Council	323,561
Flintshire County Council	373,013
Gwynedd Council	309,171
Isle of Anglesey County Council	191,397
Merthyr Tydfil Borough Council	204,273
Monmouthshire County Council	208,940
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council	535,376
Newport City Council	513,706
Pembrokeshire County Council	336,385
Powys County Council	320,705
Rhondda-Cynon-Taff County Borough Council	715,878
Swansea City Council	821,663
Torfaen Borough Council	346,626
Vale of Glamorgan Council	332,216
Wrexham County Borough Council	412,542

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
Scotland	
Aberdeen City Council	620,775
Aberdeenshire Council	434,133
Angus Council	326,104
Argyll and Bute Council	266,833
Clackmannanshire Council	203,397
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar Council	56,070
Dumfries and Galloway Council	515,372
Dundee City Council	721,529
East Ayrshire Council	455,660
East Dunbartonshire Council	187,768
East Lothian District Council	293,800
East Renfrewshire Council	172,265
City of Edinburgh Council	1,606,295
Falkirk District Council	526,777
Fife Council	1,216,282
Glasgow City Council	3,675,389
Highland Council	619,983
Inverclyde District Council	356,526
Midlothian Council	265,602
Moray Council	219,556
North Ayrshire Council	612,403
North Lanarkshire Council	1,323,439
Orkney Islands Council	45,474
Perth and Kinross Council	342,895
Renfrewshire Council	653,164
Scottish Borders Council	344,060
Shetland Islands Council	42,131
South Ayrshire Council	393,838
South Lanarkshire Council	1,074,391

Local authority	*Administration subsidy (£)*
Stirling Council	242,468
West Dunbartonshire Council	462,658
West Lothian Council	636,000”.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order amends the Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Order 1998 (S.I. 1998/562) ("the 1998 Order") which provides for the calculation and payment of housing benefit subsidy to local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland which administer housing benefit. Sections 140C(4) and 140F(2) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 (c. 5) authorise the making, revocation or varying of an Order before, during or after the year to which it relates.

Article 3 updates the definition of "HBAP" in article 2 of the 1998 Order to refer to the appropriate version of the Housing Benefit Assurance Process, published on 2nd April 2026.

Article 4 omits article 12(1)(bza) and Schedule 1ZB from the 1998 Order which provide for the making of additional payments of subsidy to authorities administering alerts relating to the earnings and pension entitlement of claimants for housing benefit (the Verify Earnings and Pension Alerts service (VEP)). Schedule 1ZB specifies the additional amounts to be paid to local authorities to support the administration of VEP. Article 12(1)(bza) requires these additional amounts to be taken into account when calculating subsidy. VEP funding became part of the housing benefit administration funding from 1st April 2025 and these provisions are no longer required to determine additional amounts of subsidy payable in respect of VEP administration.

Article 5 and the Schedule substitute Schedule 1 to the 1998 Order, which prescribes the sums used in the calculation of subsidy for the year beginning 1st April 2025.

Article 6 amends Schedule 1ZC to the 1998 Order which prescribes a system for the making of additional payments of subsidy to authorities verifying the accuracy of information held in respect of the household, income and capital, and general financial circumstances of claimants for housing benefit. The amendment to paragraph 1 of that Schedule updates the definition of "HBAAI" to refer to the most recent version of the Housing Benefit Award Accuracy Initiative, published on 24th April 2025. The amendments to paragraph 2 of that Schedule update the Schedule to refer to the additional amounts of subsidy payable for the year beginning on 1st April 2025. The amounts were notified by the Secretary of State to local authorities on 24th April 2025.

Article 7 amends Schedule 4A to the 1998 Order, both to update the rebate proportion figure for 2026/2027 to 0.332 and to set out revised specified amounts "O" and guideline rent increases "P" used when calculating deductions from subsidy under paragraph 2 of Schedule 4A. The amendments to Schedule 4A have effect for the purposes of determining subsidy payable for the year beginning on 1st April 2026 for authorities in Wales.

Hard copies of the circulars referenced in this Order are available by writing to the Department for Work and Pensions, Local Authority Partnership, Engagement and Delivery Division, Peel Park Phase 2, First Floor Blue Zone, Brunel Way, Blackpool, Lancashire FY4 5ES or by emailing lawelfare.lafunding@dwp.gov.uk.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sector is foreseen.

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ISBN 978-0-34-828772-1

£8.90

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/uksi/2026/1079