





# What are community care grants?

Community care grants are part of the Social Fund and they help older people who get Pension Credit to pay for important things they need in certain situations.

## Can I get a community care grant?

You may be able to get a community care grant to buy things if you need help to:

- Get back on your feet after being in hospital or a care home
- Stay in your own home and be independent
- Cope with difficult problems in your family (such as health problems)
- Visit someone who is ill or go to a relative's funeral.

There is a set amount of money for community care grants. Only the most important and urgent needs can be paid.

## Savings

If you have more than £1,000 in savings, you may not be able to get a community care grant.



# How do I apply for a community care grant?

You have to fill in a form called SF300. You can get this from:

- Your local Jobs and Benefits/Social Security Office
- Social Security Agency website:  
[www.ssani.gov.uk](http://www.ssani.gov.uk)

Send the completed form to your local Jobs and Benefits/Social Security Office.

## Your Rights to a Review

### **By the Jobs and Benefits/Social Security Office**

If you are not happy with the decision on your community care grant application you have the right to a review by a Reviewing Officer at your Jobs and Benefits/Social Security Office.

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### **By a Social Fund Inspector**

If you are not happy with the Reviewing Officer's decision you have the right to an independent review by a Social Fund Inspector. Please turn to the back page for more details.



# How do I apply for a review by a Social Fund Inspector?

- Fill in the tear-off part of leaflet OSFC1 (sent to you by the Jobs and Benefits/Social Security Office with the Reviewing Officer's decision)

Or

- Write a simple letter to say why you want a Social Fund Inspector to review your application

Send this within 28 days of the Reviewing Officer's decision to the Social Fund Inspector at:

**FREEPOST OSFC - Scottish Amicable Building,  
11 Donegall Square South, Belfast, BT1 5JE.**

You do not need a stamp.

## What will the Inspector do?

The Inspector will write to you about your case. He may ask you for more information.

The Inspector will normally let you know his decision within 12 working days. He will change the decision made by the Jobs and Benefits/Social Security Office if it is wrong.

### **OSFC 7**

#### **Office of the Social Fund Commissioner**

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