















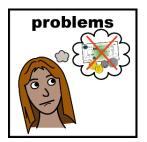
Are you worried about money or about being in debt?



There may be lots of reasons why you are worried about money. You may suddenly have no money, be in debt, owe money, or you have to choose to spend money on food or heating or paying bills. Or you may be waiting on benefits payments.



Here is some information on the ways to contact people for help and advice with your money problems if you live in Highland.



Crisis Grant and Community Care Grant

If you are experiencing a crisis or disaster and you have difficulties coping with unexpected expenses, you may be able to get a Crisis Grant or Community Care Grant.

Contact Highland Council or one of the Citizens Advice Bureaus





Citizens Advice Bureau - Lochaber

Phone - 01397 705 311

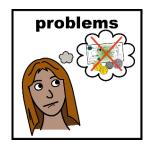
Website – www.lochabercab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau – Inverness, Badenoch and Strathspey

Phone - 01463 237 664

Website – www.invernesscab.org



Making your money go further

Anyone who is worried about money can get a free benefit check. This will make sure you are getting the right amount of money and get advice on other ways to save money. For example, cheaper gas or electricity or free school meals.

Contact Highland Council or one of the Citizens Advice Bureaus



Highland Council

Phone - 0800 090 1004

Email – welfare.support@highland.gov.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau – Caithness

Phone - 01847 894 243

Website – www.caithnesscab.org



Citizens Advice Bureau – North and West Sutherland

Phone - 01971 521 730

Website – www.nwscab.org.uk





Debt advice

If you are in debt or owe money, you can get help and advice about ways to pay off your debts each month.

Contact Highland Council or one of the Citizens Advice Bureaus



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Phone – 0800 090 1004 Email – welfare.support@highland.gov.uk



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Citizens Advice Bureau - North and West Sutherland

Phone – 01971 521 730 Website – www.nwscab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau – East and Central Sutherland

Phone – 01408 633 000

Website – www.ecscab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau – Ross and Cromarty

Phone - 01349 883 333

Website – www.rossandcromartycab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau - Skye and Lochalsh

Phone - 01478 612 032

Website - www.slcab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau - Nairn

Phone - 01667 456 677

Website – www.nairncab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau - Lochaber

Phone - 01397 705 311

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Benefit help

If you have made a new claim for benefits you might be able to get money in advance to pay for things like rent or food. This money is a loan and must be paid be back.

It will be taken from your benefits once they start, so make sure you talk to someone before you ask for an advance benefit payment.

Contact Highland Council or one of the Citizens Advice Bureaus





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Citizens Advice Bureau – Inverness, Badenoch and Strathspey

Phone - 01463 237 664

Website - www.invernesscab.org



Hardship payment

If you have had money stopped from your benefits, you may be able to get a hardship payment from the DWP (Department of work and Pensions). These payments are not made straight away and not everyone will be able to get one.

Contact Highland Council or one of the Citizens Advice Bureaus



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If you get a hardship payment for Universal Credit you will need to pay this money back.

If you get a hardship payment for Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment support allowance, you **do not need** to pay this money back.



Challenge a decision

You can challenge a decision about your benefits. This may be because they have been stopped or reduced. Or you have been refused benefits or told you have been overpaid. You will have to make this challenge within one month.

Contact Highland Council



Highland Council

Phone – 0800 090 1004 Email – welfare.support@highland.gov.uk



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You may be eligible for support from Social Security Scotland

Contact - Social Security Scotland

Phone - 0800 182 2222

Website – mygov.scot/benefits



For energy efficiency advice to help save on bills

Contact - Home Energy Scotland

Phone - 0808 808 2282

Website – www.homeenergyscotland.org



For housing advice

Contact - Shelter

Phone - 0808 800 4444

Website - scotland.shelter.org.uk



For mental health support

Contact – Breathing Space

Phone - 0800 83 85 87

Website - www.breathingspace.scot

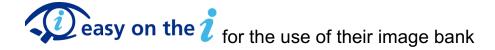


For housing advice

Contact – Salvation Army

Phone - 01463 234 123

With thanks to





Exclusively Inclusive for making this information in Easy Read

Adapted from the Craven Easy Read leaflet by the Independent Food Aid Network

This leaflet is based on learning from Scotland's A Menu for Change project and has been developed with support from the organisations at the top of this leaflet.

You can access the Worrying about Money leaflets at www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/cash-first-leaflets
This information was last updated on 12/03/2024.