

Newcastle Budget 2016

– Replacement Social Fund: Supporting Independence Scheme



What the scheme will provide

The SIS will cover the provision of one or more of the following in accordance with need:

- Beds
- Bedding
- Chairs/sofas
- Tables
- Wardrobes/chest of drawers
- Pans, utensils, crockery and cutlery
- Floor coverings for bedrooms and living areas
- Curtains
- Cookers/Microwaves
- Kettles/toasters
- Vacuum, iron, ironing board
- Fridges
- Washing machines
- Storage or removal costs

Eligibility criteria

The designated support providers and statutory agencies will be guided by the following eligibility criteria when applying for assistance from the SIS for their clients:

- be moving from an 'institution' **as part of** a planned programme of resettlement support

Some examples of institutions include hostels and short term supported accommodation, hospitals, chronic care facilities, refuges, prisons or approved premises, care leavers or offenders on release on temporary license

Or

- require help to remain in the community and avoid moving into an institution **and** be in receipt of a planned programme of sustainment support

Or

- require help to set up home in the community following an unsettled way of life **and** are being resettled as part of a planned programme of resettlement support

Or

- families who requires help to maintain their independence **and** are in receipt of designated support as part of a planned programme

In addition to the criteria above, SIS referral agencies must agree to provide data on clients' circumstances at regular intervals (3,6 and 12 months after receiving award) after receipt of support as a condition of clients being granted awards from the SIS.

Financial criteria

The scheme is intended for those on low incomes. This includes people who are in receipt of one of more of the following qualifying benefits:

- Income Support
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit at a rate higher than the family element

and

- Do not have savings or investments of more than £500 if aged under 60, and £1,000 if aged over 60.

Exclusions

- People involved in a trade dispute
- People subject to immigration control
- People who require an item not covered in section 5.1
- People who require an item less than the value of £50 (our intention is to minimise transaction costs through the provision of repeated small awards)
- People who do not meet the criteria set out in 6.1 and 6.2
- People who do not have a settled home or imminent move on arrangements to settled accommodation
- People who have made an application to the Supporting Independence Scheme within the last 12 months and whose circumstances have not significantly changed since their previous application