



Croydon  
Sickle Cell & Thalassaemia  
Support Group

# FACTSHEET

## Spring 2023

### **Benefit uprating**

From April 2023 Social Security benefits for both working age people and pension age people will rise by 10.1%.

The benefits due to increase by this amount includes:

- Universal Credit
- Pension Credit
- New Style ESA
- Personal Independence Payment
- Disability Living Allowance
- Attendance Allowance
- Carer's Allowance

People who are receiving a 'legacy benefit' (Income-based JSA, Income-related ESA, Income Support, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit and Housing Benefit) will benefit from an increase of an equal amount.

The increase will mean that people of pension age who get the full basic Retirement Pension will see their payments increase from £141.85 per week to £156.20 per week whilst those who reached state pension age on or after 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and who receive the full basic new State Pension, will see a rise in their payments from £185.15 per week to £203.85.



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### **Cost of Living Payment...**

People receiving any of the following means-tested benefits during period 2023 - 2024, will receive Cost of Living Payments totalling £900.

- Universal Credit
- Pension Credit
- Income-based JSA
- Income-related ESA
- Income Support
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit

The overall payment will automatically be paid in instalments to those who are considered to qualify and payments made will be tax-free and will not impact adversely on the benefit entitlements already being received by people.

They will be broadly as follows:

£301 – First Cost of Living Payment – during Spring 2023

£150 – Disability Payment – during Summer 2023

£300 – Second Cost of Living Payment – during Autumn 2023

£300 – Pensioner Payment – during Winter 2023/4

£299 – Third Cost of Living Payment – during Spring 2024

### **£300 Pensioners Cost of Living Payment...**

It is planned to make a £300 Cost of Living Payment to pensioners during 2023-2024 to help with household bills. This is in addition to the £900 Cost of Living Payment and the £150 Disability Cost of Living Payment.

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Registered charity number 1100120



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This payment is being made in recognition of the fact that pensioners are often

Disproportionately impacted by higher energy costs, the fact that many pensioners are unable to increase their income through work and that many low-income pensioner households do not claim all the Social Security benefits to which they are entitled to.

The payment will be paid in addition to the £900 Cost of Living Payment and the £150 Disability Cost of Living payment. The payment also comes on top of any Winter Fuel Payment that a person may qualify for because they are a pensioner which in itself can be worth up to £600.

The payment will be tax-free and will not impact adversely on the benefit entitlements already being received by people.

### Disability Cost of Living Payment

You may get a lump sum payment of £150 if you're getting any of the following:

- Attendance Allowance
- Constant Attendance Allowance
- Disability Living Allowance for adults
- Disability Living Allowance for children
- Personal Independence Payment
- Adult Disability Payment (in Scotland)
- Child Disability Payment (in Scotland)
- Armed Forces Independence Payment
- War Pension Mobility Supplement

### Eligibility

You must have qualified for on been in receipt of one of these qualifying benefits on 25 May 2022 to get the payment.

If you get a qualifying disability benefit from the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and a qualifying disability benefit from DWP, you will get a Disability Cost of Living Payment from DWP only.



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## Benefit Cap

The benefit cap is a limit on the total amount of benefit you can receive per month dependent on your household circumstances. It applies to most people aged 16 or over who have not reached State Pension age.

The Benefit Cap will be increased from April 2023 as follows:

<b>Greater London</b>	<b>Rates 2022/23 (£)pm</b>	<b>Rates 2023/24 (£)pm</b>
Couples (with or without children) or single claimants with a child of qualifying age	1,916.67	2,110.25
Single adult households without children	1,284.17	1,413.92

There are some exemptions from the benefit cap. Contact our advice line for further information.

## Pension Credit

It is widely acknowledged that Pension credit is under claimed by people reaching state pension age which is currently 66.

Pension Credit is designed to provide a minimum income for pensioners. It is often paid as a top-up to the State Retirement Pension / new State Pension (including private and occupational pensions) that many pensioners get.

The main reasons people do not claim is because they are either unaware that Pension Credit exists or that they do not think they are able to qualify because they already have some pension provision.



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To help increase the take-up of Pension Credit, the Pension Service have devised an online calculator that can be used to see if (and how much) applicants may qualify. See below.

[Pension Credit calculator - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

You can seek advice on Pension Credit by ringing the relevant numbers below.

Claim Line 0800 99 1234

Pension Service Helpline 0800 731 0469

### **Universal Credit Migration**

**Natural migration** has been in place since the introduction of UC. If claimants experience a change in their circumstances while in receipt of a legacy benefit, they will need to make a claim to UC and any legacy claim will be closed. Legacy benefits