

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_2019008**
Date FOI Received: **04/01/2019**
Department: **Benefits**
Title: **Housing benefit**
Description: **Amount of housing benefit paid for those with Learning Disability or Mental Health needs for lowest, highest and mean average.**

Request: *(As Redacted sent by requestor)*

Please provide the following information related to housing benefit amounts paid to people in receipt of care in supported living settings. By supported living, we mean those who live in a property with their own tenancy, but receiving care and support commissioned by the local authority:

- 1) The lowest weekly housing benefit amount you paid to an individual as part of a supported living arrangement for the financial year 2018/19 for:
 - a) Learning Disability
 - b) Mental Health

- 2) The mean weekly housing benefit amount you paid to an individual as part of a supported living arrangement for the financial year 2018/19 for:
 - a) Learning Disability
 - b) Mental Health

- 3) The highest weekly housing benefit amount you paid to an individual as part of a supported living arrangement for the financial year 2018/19 for:
 - a) Learning Disability
 - b) Mental Health

- 4) Please explain how housing benefit amounts are calculated for those in receipt of care in supported living settings.

Response: *(Response as Redacted sent by service)*

For questions 1-3 please see table below:

	Learning disability	Mental health
Lowest weekly HB	£142.03	£122.71
Medium weekly HB	£229.45	£152.84
Highest weekly HB	£399.32	£243.21

4. The calculation is the same for all recipients of housing benefits. The care and support element makes no difference to this. The actual cost of care and support is not included in the housing benefit calculation as it is a charge that housing benefit does not cover.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545700
Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards

Information Services