

### Support provided to residents so far for 2022/3

South Kesteven District Council continues to support residents throughout 2022/23 by administering the Governments statutory support schemes, along with national initiatives.

The value of support administered by South Kesteven District Councils Revenues and Benefits Team so far for 2022/23 is

- Statutory Support - £24,177,856
- National Initiatives - £12,476,437

Type of support	Type of support	Position as of 28 February 2023	
		Value of support	Current Position
Statutory  Administered by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	Housing Benefit  <a href="http://www.gov.uk">Housing Benefit: Eligibility - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a> <a href="http://southkesteven.gov.uk">Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support (southkesteven.gov.uk)</a>	£16,969,777	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support available throughout 2022/23</li> <li>• Rent rebate (SKDC tenants) - £6,216,480</li> <li>• Rent Allowance (Private tenants) - £13,777,629</li> </ul>
Statutory  Administered by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	Council Tax Support  <a href="http://southkesteven.gov.uk">Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support (southkesteven.gov.uk)</a>	£7,049,395	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support available throughout 2022/23</li> <li>• Working age – 4,213 recipients (£3,865,762)</li> <li>• Pension age – 3,140 recipients (£3,138,633)</li> </ul>
Statutory  Administered by SKDC Revenues	Discretionary Housing Payment (Budget for 2022/23 is £155,861)	£139,014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support available throughout 2022/23</li> <li>• Help people with Housing costs as a result of a shortfall due to the benefit cap, removal of spare room subsidy in the social rented sector, Local Housing Allowance</li> </ul>

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and Benefits Team	<a href="https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk">Extra support - discretionary housing payments (southkesteven.gov.uk)</a>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover Housing costs for rent deposits and/or rent in advance</li> <li>• Income and expenditure assessment is undertaken</li> </ul>
Statutory Administered by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	Discretionary Council Tax Payment (Budget for 2022/23 is £38,861) <a href="https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk">Extra support - discretionary housing payments (southkesteven.gov.uk)</a>	£19,670	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support available throughout 2022/23</li> <li>• Help people with a shortfall between Council Tax Support award and Council Tax liability</li> <li>• Income and expenditure assessment is undertaken</li> </ul>
National Initiative – Administered by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	Business Rates – Retail Relief 50% <a href="https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk">Business rates relief (southkesteven.gov.uk)</a>	£3,823,719	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support available throughout 2022/23</li> <li>• 571 Businesses supported</li> <li>• At the budget on 27 October 2021, the Chancellor announced that eligible ratepayers will receive 50% relief on their business rates bills for the year 2022/23 up to a maximum cash cap of £110,000</li> <li>• Relief will be provided to eligible occupied retail, hospitality and leisure properties</li> <li>• The 50% has been automatically awarded for those in receipt of the same relief in 2021/22 (66%).</li> <li>• Letters were issued to all those businesses requesting them to complete an online application to either opt-in or opt-out of the relief</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All returned applications where the business has chosen to opt-out have been processed, with an updated bill being issued with new instalments from 1 May 2022</li> </ul>
National Initiative – Administered by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	£150 Council Tax Rebate – Main scheme (Band A-D) <a href="https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/council-tax-energy-rebate">Council Tax Energy Rebate (southkesteven.gov.uk)</a>	£8,094,300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Government's deadline for making payments was 30 September 2022</li> <li>Out of 53,431 properties that are eligible (Bands A-D) – payments were made to 99.88% of households</li> </ul>
National Initiative – Administered by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	£150 Council Tax Rebate – Discretionary scheme (Band E-H) <a href="https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/council-tax-energy-rebate">Council Tax Energy Rebate (southkesteven.gov.uk)</a>	£57,450	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Government's deadline for making payments was 30 November 2022</li> <li>The total funding for the scheme is capped at £189,900</li> <li>Various cohorts were identified for additional or new support and all residents identified were awarded the support by the deadline.</li> </ul>
National Initiative	Cost of living payments for households receiving means-tested benefits. <a href="https://www.gov.uk/cost-of-living-payment">Cost of Living Payment - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	£650 per household (total numbers not known)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paid in two instalments – July and Autumn</li> <li>Nationally for over 8 million households on means tested</li> </ul>

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National Initiative – Administered by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	Household Support Fund – April to September 2022  <a href="#">Household Support Fund (1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022): final guidance for county councils and unitary authorities in England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	£202,120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for Lincolnshire was announced - £5,464,685</li> <li>• Funding for districts was distributed and for SKDC this was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ £142,120 for pensioners</li> <li>○ £60,000 for all other households</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The fund helps vulnerable households meet daily needs such as food, clothing and utilities</li> <li>• At least 33% must be spent on families with children – via Lincolnshire County Council free school meal distribution;</li> <li>• At least 33% must be spent on pensioners via post office vouchers for the value of £110 per pensioner</li> <li>• Remaining funding for other households via supermarket vouchers at a value of £100 for adult only household or £200 for household with children</li> </ul>
National Initiative – Administered by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	Household Support Fund – October 2022 to March 2023  <a href="#">1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023: Household Support Fund guidance for county councils and unitary authorities in England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	£225,750 (HB only)  £73,098 (all other)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for Lincolnshire was announced - £5,464,685</li> <li>• Funding for districts was distributed and for SKDC this was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ £299,000 for Housing Benefit (HB) only recipients</li> <li>○ £130,060 for all other households</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The fund helps vulnerable households meet daily needs such as food and rising energy costs</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those identified to be in receipt of Housing Benefit only and did not receive the £650 national cost of living payment - £250 per household via bank payment (BACS)</li> <li>• Remaining funding for other households via supermarket and energy vouchers at a value of £200 – via application process</li> <li>• Application process closed on 24 February 2023</li> </ul>
National Initiative	<p>Energy bill reduction for all households – known as the Energy Bills Support Scheme (EBSS)</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/explainers/energy-bills-support-scheme-explainer">Energy Bills Support Scheme explainer - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p>	£400 per household (total numbers not known)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant for all households which will be taken off their energy bills or have a credit to their payment meter from Autumn 2022</li> <li>• Households will not have to make repayments</li> </ul>
National Initiative  Administered by DESNZ and supported by SKDC Revenues and Benefits Team	<p>Energy Bills Support Scheme - Alternative Funding (EBSS AF)</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/900000-more-households-to-benefit-from-400-of-government-energy-bill-support">900,000 more households to benefit from £400 of government energy bill support - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p>	£400 per household	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £1,094,000 funding awarded – 2,735 potential eligible households</li> <li>• Government support for those households without a direct relationship to a domestic electricity supplier such as those living in park homes and care homes</li> <li>• Applications can be made via a secure online GOV portal to receive the support as a one-off, non-repayable lump sum</li> </ul>

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National Initiative	Alternative Fuel Payment – Alternative Funding (AFP AF)  <a href="https://www.gov.uk">Households, businesses and organisations off the gas grid to receive energy bill support over the coming weeks - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	£200 per household	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £203,000 funding awarded – 1,015 potential eligible households</li> <li>• Government support for those households who don't use mains gas for heating</li> <li>• Most will get the £200 AFP automatically as a credit on their electricity bill but some customers will need to apply for the support later this month.</li> <li>• Applications can be made via a secure online GOV portal to receive the support as a one-off, non-repayable lump sum</li> </ul>
National Initiative	Cost of living payment – Additional payment for pensioners  <a href="https://www.gov.uk">Cost of Living Payment - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	£300 per person (total numbers not known)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment to over 8 million pensioners who receive the Winter Fuel Payment</li> </ul>
National Initiative	Cost of living payment – Additional payment for people receiving disability payments  <a href="https://www.gov.uk">Help for Households - Get government cost of living support</a>	£150 per person (total numbers not known)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment to be made from 20 September 2022</li> <li>• Payment to around 6 million people receiving disability benefits</li> </ul>
National initiative	Cost of living payments – spring 2023	At the time of writing this report, these details are currently unknown but expect to receive an announcement in the coming weeks.	

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	<a href="https://www.gov.uk">Millions of low-income households to get new Cost of Living Payments from Spring 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>		