

## LEASEHOLDERS

Leaseholders who have a legal obligation to pay for a support cost as part of their service charge may be eligible for Supporting People payments to meet part of these costs. These support costs would normally be to cover warden and / or alarm costs.

An income related benefit such as Pension Credit will act as a passport to receiving Supporting People payments. Alternatively, a service user may apply for a Fairer Charging Assessment with savings under the current capital limit as shown on the financial assessment referral form.

We will require:

- proof that the leaseholder is the legal owner of the accommodation which carries a legal requirement to pay the service charges
- a signed data consent form
- evidence of current receipt of an income related benefit such as Pension Credit
- a breakdown of the service charges

Application can be made to the Supporting People office by phone or in writing and payments will be backdated to the date contact is first received. You will then be sent a letter with specific details of what information we will need.

Payments will be made on an annual basis by cheque. For each subsequent year the leaseholder will be required to provide evidence that they are still in receipt of an income related benefit such as Pension Credit. We will also require a copy of the service charges for the current year.

Evidence of the benefit can be a copy of the letter issued annually showing the rates for that year or the Department of Work and Pensions will provide a copy on request which can then be forwarded to Supporting People. For Pension Credit this can be obtained by ringing the Pension Helpline (Tel 0845 6060265).