

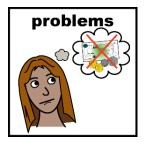
Are you worried about money or about being in debt?



There may be lots of reasons why you are worried about money. You may suddenly have no money, be in debt, owe money, or you have to choose to spend money on food or heating or paying bills. Or you may be waiting on benefits payments.



Here is some information on the ways to contact people for help and advice with your money problems if you live in Aberdeenshire.



Crisis Grant

If you are experiencing a crisis or disaster and you have difficulties coping with unexpected expenses, you may be able to get a Crisis Grant.

Contact Scottish Welfare Fund or Citizens Advice Bureau or Aberdeenshire Council



Scottish Welfare Fund

Phone - 01467 537 400

Website – www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/benefits-and-grants/welfare-reform/scottish-welfare-fund



Citizens Advice Bureau – North West Aberdeenshire

Phone - 01888 562 495

Email – adviser@nwacab.org.uk

Website – www.nwacab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau - South West Aberdeenshire

Phone - 01224 747 714

Email – enquiries@swacab.org.uk

Website – www.swacab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau – North East Aberdeenshire

Phone - 01779 471 515

Email – bureau@aberdeenshirecab.casonline.org.uk

Website - www.neacab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau – Kincardine and Mearns

Phone - 01569 766 578

Email – bureau@kamcab.org.uk

Website – www.kamcab.org.uk

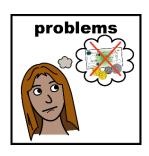


Aberdeenshire Council: Support and Advice Team

Phone - 03456 081 200

Email – asat@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website – www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk



Making your money go further

Anyone who is worried about money can get a free benefit check. This will make sure you are getting the right amount of money and get advice on other ways to save money. For example, cheaper gas or electricity or free school meals.

Contact Citizens Advice Bureaus or Aberdeenshire Council



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Phone - 03456 081 200

Email – asat@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website – www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk



Aberdeenshire Council: Welfare Rights Team

Phone - 01467 538 555

Email – welfare.rights@aberdeenshire.gov.uk Website – www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/benefits-andgrants/money-and-welfare-advice



Debt advice

If you are in debt or owe money, you can get help and advice about ways to pay off your debts each month.

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Benefit help

If you have made a new claim for benefits you might be able to get money in advance to pay for things like rent or food. This money is a loan and must be paid be back. It will be taken from your benefits once they start, so make sure you talk to someone before you ask for an advance benefit payment.

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Aberdeenshire Council: Support and Advice Team

Phone - 03456 081 200

Email – asat@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website – www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk



Aberdeenshire Council: Welfare Rights Team

Phone - 01467 538 555

Email – welfare.rights@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website – www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/benefits-and-

grants/money-and-welfare-advice



Hardship payment

If you have had money stopped from your benefits, you may be able to get a hardship payment from the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions). These payments are not made straight away and not everyone will be able to get one.

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Email – adviser@nwacab.org.uk

Website - www.nwacab.org.uk



Citizens Advice Bureau - South West Aberdeenshire

Phone - 01224 747 714

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Website – www.swacab.org.uk



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Email – bureau@kamcab.org.uk

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Aberdeenshire Council: Support and Advice Team

Phone - 03456 081 200

Email – asat@aberdeenshire.gov.uk Website – www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk



If you get a hardship payment for Universal Credit you will need to pay this money back.

If you get a hardship payment for Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment support allowance, you **do not need** to pay this money back.



Challenge a decision

You can challenge a decision about your benefits. This may be because they have been stopped or reduced. Or you have been refused benefits or told you have been overpaid. You will have to make this challenge within one month.

Contact Citizens Advice Bureaus or Aberdeenshire Council



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Aberdeenshire Council: Support and Advice Team

Phone - 03456 081 200

Email – asat@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website - www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk



Aberdeenshire Council: Welfare Rights Team

Phone - 01467 538 555

Email – welfare.rights@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website – www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/benefits-and-

grants/money-and-welfare-advice



You may be eligible for support from Social Security Scotland

Contact – Social Security Scotland

Phone - 0800 182 2222

Website – mygov.scot/benefits



Help for those reducing redundancy

Contact - PACE

Website – www.redundancyscotland.co.uk



For advice on reducing energy costs

Contact - SCARF

Phone - 01224 213 005

Email – info@scarf.org.uk

Website - www.scarf.org.uk/householder



For energy efficiency advice to help save on bills

Contact - Home Energy Scotland

Phone - 0808 808 2282

Website - www.homeenergyscotland.org



For information on benefits and grants

Contact - Turn2us

Website - www.turn2us.org.uk



For debt advice

Contact – StepChange

Phone - 0800 138 1111

Website – www.stepchange.org



For housing advice

Contact - Shelter

Phone - 0808 800 4444

Website - scotland.shelter.org.uk



For mental health support

Contact – Breathing Space

Phone - 0800 83 85 87

Website – www.breathingspace.scot



For mental health support: 24/7 support for people who are struggling to cope and/or having suicidal thoughts

Contact – Samaritans

Phone - 116 123

Email – jo@samaritans.org

Website – www.samaritans.org



For mental health support: Urgent care advice day and night

Contact - NHS 24

Phone - 111

Website - www.nhs24.scot



For mental health support: Support for children and young people

Contact - Childline

Phone - 0800 1111

Website – www.childline.org.uk



For mental health support: free and anonymous support for young people

Contact – Kooth

Website - www.kooth.com



For mental health support: digital mental health service

Contact – Togetherall

Website – togetherall.com/en-gb



For mental health support: support people on their journey to better mental health

Contact – Penumbra Mental Health Website – www.penumbra.org.uk



For mental health support

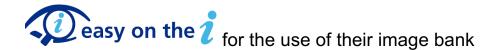
Contact – SAMH

Phone - 0344 800 0550

Email – info@samh.org.uk

Website – samh.org.uk/informationservice

With thanks to





Exclusively Inclusive for making this information in Easy Read

Adapted from the Craven Easy Read leaflet by the Independent Food

This leaflet is based on learning from Scotland's A Menu for Change project and has been developed with support from the organisations at the top of this leaflet. You can access the Worrying about Money leaflets at www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/cash-first-leaflets. This information was last updated on 08/07/2025.