

RFI-3219-21: SUBSISTENCE PAYMENTS

Could you please confirm whether the local authority, for a family eligible for support under Section 17 of the Children's Act 1989, who have no other source of income:

- (a) Has guidance on the minimum or median rate of support provided per family member?

Yes

- (b) If so, what is the minimum or median rate received per week (or fortnight if subsistence is paid fortnightly rather than weekly)?

£35.39 per family member per week.

- (c) Whether the local authority provides additional funds for children aged 1-3?

No

- (d) Whether the local authority provides additional funds for children aged 0-1?

No

- (e) Whether the local authority provides additional funds for pregnant mothers?

Yes

- (f) Whether the local authority provided any additional subsistence payments during the Covid-19 pandemic to help with additional costs?

No

- (g) If the answer to any of questions (c)-(f) is yes, then please outline what additional funds are received per week (or fortnight if subsistence is paid fortnightly rather than weekly)?

Re: Question (e):

Pregnant mother - £3.00 per week

Baby under 1 year old – £5.00 per week

Child age 1 to 3 - £3.00 per week

- (h) Whether the local authority provides a maternity grant following the birth of a child?

No

- (i) And if so, how much is this grant and is it provided for every child or only for the first child born to the mother?

N/A

- (j) Whether the local authority provides discretionary payments for additional expenditure, e.g. winter clothes, school uniforms, travel costs?

Discretionary payments for additional expenditure are provided when identified as a need in child and family assessment.

- (k) And if so, is there any guidance on the maximum amount payable or the frequency of payments?

The guidance is based on Asylum support weekly rates as per government guidelines.