

**Help Available in Manchester**

**(November 2022)**

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| **Help With**  | **Fund**  | **How to Apply** |
| Food, energy bills, struggling financially, (debts, bills, benefits or to get online) | Manchester Council  | **Cost of Living** If you are struggling with the increases in food and energy bills and are struggling financially, help is available. The line is open Monday to Friday 9am to 4:30pm.0800 023 2692 Translations and Sign Video services are available upon request. This free telephone line offers support with: Benefits and help with your rent Advice about debt and paying bills  Food support – help to find community food provision near you Help to get online - support to access the internet, laptops, phones and data.[Cost of living advice line | Cost of living advice line | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/10050/help_with_the_cost_of_living_crisis/8451/cost_of_living_advice_line) |
| Rent | Manchester Council | **Discretionary Housing Payments** You must live in Manchester to apply for them.For residents who are entitled to Housing Benefit or the Housing Element on Universal Credit, discretionary payments may be available to help if you are struggling to pay your rent.[Discretionary Housing Payments | Discretionary Housing Payments | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/200008/benefits_and_support/1342/get_discretionary_payments_dhp_and_dctp) |
| Council Tax  | Manchester Council | **Discretionary Council Tax Payments**There are no definite rules for who qualifies - you don't even have to be entitled to Council Tax Support. We look at each application individually. But you must:* live in the area covered by Manchester City Council; and
* be in severe hardship through unusual circumstances.
* [Extra help with your council tax bill | Extra help with your council tax bill | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500181/council_tax_support/6317/extra_help_with_your_council_tax_bill)
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| Furniture/White Goods | Manchester Council | **Furniture/White Goods**You may be entitled to get basic furniture or household goods if you are moving home for urgent reasons because:\* you fear violence at your current address; or\* you have significant health or care needs; or\* you have suffered a disaster or emergency; or\* your move is part of a supported resettlement programme or emergency rehousing.You may also be entitled to basic furniture or household goods to support someone to stay within their home and maintain independent living.We only provide goods, not cash. Each item will be delivered to your home, installed if necessary, and will come with a one-year warranty.[Get basic items of furniture | Get basic items of furniture | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/200008/benefits_and_support/6301/get_basic_items_of_furniture) |
| Electricity, Gas bills | Manchester Council | **Fuel Grants**If you are struggling to pay your electricity or gas bills, or risk being disconnected, we can pay between £30 and £49 to buy emergency fuel or avoid disconnection.To qualify you must:\* live within the area covered by Manchester City Council and\* be 16 or over and \* Have no capital or savings and\* get one of the following benefits:Universal Credit, Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance, Income-related Employment Support Allowance, or get Guaranteed Pension Credit.Your household must have:\*a child under five years old or\* someone who has a disability or serious health needs, or\* someone who is over pension age\* someone who is vulnerable.https://lwa.financialassessments.co.uk/OnlineApplication/(S(mnnhgldvkgl5nmtmjlvgzf4d))/Introduction.aspx?form=LWAFULL&time=638028104261192138,1667213676590 |
| Travel Cost on public Transport | Manchester Council | **Travel Grants**If you are starting work following unemployment, you can get help to pay for public transport for your first month in work.To qualify you must:\* live within the [area covered by Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/homepage/791/the_area_covered_by_manchester_city_council); and\* be 16 or over; and\* be earning less than £8.45 per hour in your new job; and\* be starting work after at least six months unemployment where you have been receiving at least one of the following benefits: Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, or Guaranteed Pension Credit.[Local Welfare Assistance (financialassessments.co.uk)](https://lwa.financialassessments.co.uk/OnlineApplication/%28S%28ojfybtwbuoxcs50hjmly4hwi%29%29/Introduction.aspx?form=LWAFULL&time=638028106796448467,1667213930095) |
| Cash Grant | Manchester Council | **Cash Grants**You can apply for a cash grant of between £30 and £60 if you are in crisis or have an emergency that's out of your control.To be eligible you must:\* live in [the area covered by Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/100004/the_council_and_democracy/6422/the_area_covered_by_manchester_city_council); and\* be 16 or over; and\* have no capital or savings; and\* get one of the following benefits; Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Universal Credit or Guaranteed Pension Credit**\* not** be experiencing hardship because of a decision by the Department of Work and Pensions (if you are, visit [the DWP website](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/) or call 0345 608 8545); and**\* not**have already received a cash grant within the last 12 months, orWe are also temporarily offering support to carers, including households where a child or young person is the carer. The carer does not need to meet the eligibility criteria.[Apply for a cash grant if you are in financial crisis | Apply for a cash grant if you are in financial crisis | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/200008/benefits_and_support/6302/apply_for_a_cash_grant_if_you_are_in_financial_crisis) |
| Free School Meals | Manchester Council | **Free School Meals**Your child may qualify for free school meals if you get any of the following: Income Support income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance income-related Employment and Support Allowance the guaranteed part of Pension Credit Child Tax Credit (as long as your annual gross income is £16,190 or less and you don’t get Working Tax Credit) Working Tax Credit run-off after you come off Working Tax Credit Universal Credit that you applied for on, or after, 1 April 2018. As long as your household income is less than £7,400 a year after tax, not including any benefits[Free school meals | Free School Meals | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500186/education_benefits/7355/apply_for_free_school_meals) |
| £50 laptops, free SIMs, digital skills courses and more | Community Computers & Manchester Libraries | **Let's Get Digital** A monthly round-up of digital support on offer across Manchester.  We are sharing this first edition with subscribers to our Libraries mailing list as we highlight some of the work being done by Manchester Libraries' Digital Inclusion team and the Work and Skills team. Their aim is to ensure as many Mancunians as possible have the kit, skills and confidence to benefit from the digital world. **SIM Cards**Pick up free sims at your local library If you’re struggling with getting access to the internet using your smartphone, you can pick up a free sim at your nearest library. These sims come with 20GB of free data per month, including unlimited calls and texts for 6 months! Pop into a library near you to find out more, or check out our blog.**Laptop**Purchase cheap laptops, desktops and more We’ve partnered with Community Computers to offer low-cost laptops for you. They’ve actually managed to drop prices on laptops to just £50 until 23rd December!Check if you’re eligible on the Community Computers website or call them on 0161 476 2777. If you’d like to see what is available in stock visit their online store. **Free digital skills courses** that can help lead you into a career! **Generation** are an employment charity aiming to support those who have faced barriers to employment. They can help you learn new digital skills and land the career you’ve always dreamed of. By signing on to their bootcamps, you can gain the knowledge you need to boost your profile, and Generation even guarantees an interview with Manchester-based employers at the end. Find out more by going on their website and choosing “Programs - Manchester". **Manchester Adult Education Service** has a whole range of free digital skills courses from absolute beginners all the way to Level 3 Digital Marketing. Find out more on their website: [manadulted.org.uk/courses/digital/](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CN.Jones%5COneDrive%5CAvailable%20Help%20November%202022.docx)**Central Library in Manchester**Donate old devices at your local library We've partnered with Community Computers to deliver a device donation and refurbishment programme! Take any devices that you no longer need or use down to your local library. Anything that cannot be used, can be recycled! Laptops, desktops, smartphones and tablets are refurbished so that they are in perfect working order, and then provided to low-income residents at a fraction of their initial cost. [Libraries now accepting device donations! — Let's get digital (letsgetdigitalmanchester.com)](https://www.letsgetdigitalmanchester.com/blog/libraries-now-accepting-device-donations?utm_content=&utm_name=&utm_term=) |
| Housing Advice,Homelessness | Shelter | **Shelter**Homelessness[Get help from Shelter - Shelter England](https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help) |
|  | Citizens Advice | **Citizens Advice**Impartial advice and information about housing, benefits, debt, work and more[Housing Advice — Citizens Advice Manchester](https://www.citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk/housing-advice/) |
| * Welfare Benefits
* Money & Debt
* Housing/Homelessness
* Consumer and employment problems
* Getting into work
* Access to adult learning, training and volunteering
* Immigration/Nationality issues (we are registered with OISC to provide Level 1 advice)
* Access to Education, Health and other statutory services
* Information about other local services and opportunities
* Help and advice for British National (Overseas) families coming to the UK on the Hong Kong BN(O) route
 | Cheetham Hill Advice Centre | **Cheetham Hill Advice Centre** Local support with:* \* Welfare Benefits
* \* Money & Debt
* \* Housing/Homelessness
* \* Consumer and employment problems
* \* Getting into work
* \* Access to adult learning, training and volunteering
* \* Immigration/Nationality issues (we are registered with OISC to provide Level 1 advice)
* \* Access to Education, Health and other statutory services
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[Cheetham Hill Advice Centre - Home (cheethamadvice.org.uk)](https://cheethamadvice.org.uk/) |
| Youth Homelessness | Centrepoint | **Centrepoint**Homeless or at risk? We're here for you. We offer advice to anyone in England aged 16-25.Call us free on 0808 800 0661 (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm).We can also help people worried about a young person they know.[Centrepoint Helpline | Centrepoint](https://centrepoint.org.uk/youth-homelessness/get-help-now/) |
| Free Legal advice for homeless people or those at risk of becoming homeless. | Greater Manchester Law Centre  | **Greater Manchester Law Centre** Provides free legal advice and representation for homeless people and people who are at risk of losing their home living in Greater Manchester.[Housing information – Greater Manchester Law Centre (gmlaw.org.uk)](https://www.gmlaw.org.uk/housing/) |
| Housing Advice | Manchester Move? | **Manchester Move?**Advice on the best housing solutions for your circumstances. This may include social housing, private renting, home ownership and mutual exchanges.[Manchester Move - Home](https://homes.manchestermove.co.uk/choice/default.aspx) |
| Domestic Abuse  | Greater Manchester Domestic Abuse Helpline | **Greater Manchester Domestic Abuse Helpline**A free, confidential line whose staff can provide advice, help you formulate a safety plan, and access refuge spaces across the country. Advice is also available in Urdu and Punjabi. Tel: **0161 636 7525**.[Get help and advice about domestic abuse | Get help and advice about domestic abuse | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/domesticabuse) |
| Food Banks | The Trussell Trust  | **The Trussell Trust**If you're struggling to afford the essentials or need advice and support0808 2082138 for free (open Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm)[Find a Food Bank - The Trussell Trust](https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/) |
| Food Club  | Fareshare  | **Fareshare**Pay £2.50 per week and receive food for £15.00Contact Us Phone: 0161 2776970 Email: michael.cowieson@family-action.org.uk  |
| Paint  | B&Q Dulux  | <https://communityrepaint.org.uk/need-paint/our-remanufactured-paint/> |
| **Food Club** Burnage, Chorlton Withington & old Moat  | Southway Housing  | **Southway Housing**<https://www.southwayhousing.co.uk/news-events/miscellaneous/five-food-clubs-helping-manchester-get-quids-in/>Pay £2.50 weekly and receive £15.00 worth of shopping  |
| Anything  | Talsiman Charity  | **Talsiman Charity**Our aim is to reduce poverty in the United Kingdom, such as by making grants to organisations who apply on behalf of individuals. We assist individuals who may be described as "going short", accepting applications from registered authorities and organisations. <http://www.talismancharity.org/> |
| **Clothing & Uniform** | Wood Street Mission  | **Wood Street Mission**We can help you with children’s clothes, toys, bedding, baby equipment and toiletries through our [Family Basics](https://www.woodstreetmission.org.uk/our-work/family-basics/) service**You cannot self-refer.** You need to be referred to Wood Street Mission by a professional who knows your family’s circumstances well – for example, someone at your child’s school, a social worker, health visitor, midwife, or support worker. They will need to send us a form which they can find on our For Referrers page. You can also find information there about what happens next.<http://www.woodstreetmission.org.uk> |
| **Babywear and equipment** | Cascade Baby Bundles | **Cascade Baby Bundles**Support the parent(s) by providing a ‘Baby Bundle’ gift containing items of clothing, toys and essentials that will help cushion the financial impact of a child on a family experiencing hardship. We provide these bundles for newborn babies and children all the way up to age ten. <http://www.cascadebabybundles.org.uk/> |
| **Grants for emergency household items** | Children in need  | **Children in Need**We are now a referrer for this fund and can apply on behalf of families Children in Need emergency funding Essentials such as beds, washing machine. Grant up to £300We can deliver or fund critical items such as:* Electric cookers
* Furniture
* Kitchen equipment and small appliances
* Children’s beds and bedding (including cots)
* Washing machines and tumble dryers
* Fridges, freezers and fridge-freezers
* Baby equipment
* Clothing

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/about-us/get-in-touch/> |
| **Food Clothing bedding or furniture**  | Mustard Tree  | **Mustard Tree**<http://www.mustardtree.org.uk> |
| **Financial Support for everyday items**  | Glasspool  | **Glasspool**<http://www.glasspool.org.uk/>We provide timely, small, one-off grants to individuals and families in need of financial support for everyday items. **We are able to accept new applications from 11am each Monday. Once we have received as many applications as we can potentially fund for the week, you will not be able to submit any new applications until 11am the following Monday. This will be a Tuesday, if Monday is a bank holiday.** |
| **Grants for £50-£500**  | Gaddum | **Gaddum**Gaddum looks after a number of historical trust funds. These are available to provide financial support to people of all ages and from very different walks of life.Each year a limited amount of funding is made available, so difficult decisions to allocate funding are made either by Mynshull’s, the Gaddum Trustee Board, or individual trust fund Trustees. Each of the funds describes the people they are there to help, and you can apply using the contact details at the end of this page.If you need any support in making a referral, just give me a call to chat through.Call on 0161 834 6069 or send me a message to trustfunds@gaddum.org.uk to request an application form and apply for funding.[Trust funds - Gaddum](https://www.gaddum.org.uk/about/trust-funds/) |