

Housing & Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Discretionary Housing Payments

Criteria to claim - DHP's can only be awarded to people who are in receipt of either Housing Benefit or the Housing Element of Universal Credit and we can then only award for the following reasons -

- Help to move into a new more affordable property or a better suited sized property.
- Under occupancy charges
- Rent shortfalls - so the difference between what the Government says your rent should be (LHA rate) and the actual rent being charged.
- Income related shortfalls in the rent being paid against what the LHA rate is we are able to pay up to.
- Help with moving costs

Portsmouth City Council's budget for 2018/19 was £ 675,063.00 and as of 27/02/2019 we had spent £ 654,021.19 of that budget.

The amount we spend each year will depend on the number of requests we have come in and what changes within Benefits have happened within that year.