

# Grants information sheet

Grants may be available those on a low income who need help with a one-off expense or general living costs for a short period. Age UK Wiltshire don't generally offer grants but we can help you apply. They don't need to be paid back.

## General criteria

- Usually you need to be in receipt of a means-tested benefit, or in the process of applying for one.
- Grants are not paid retrospectively. A grant must be awarded before work is undertaken or item is purchased.
- At least 2 quotes for work or evidence of the cost of an item is required to accompany most grant applications.
- A benefits check is a requirement for grant applications, to ensure you are maximising your income.

## General grants

- **Friends of the Elderly** offer grants to people over pension-age of up to approx £300 for essential household items, unexpected bills and digital technology items.
- **Occupational charity** grants/ benevolent funds are available to help retired and current employees of certain professions e.g. SSAFA, Cavell Nurses Trust, Post Office. This may be applicable to the client and/or their partner.
- **Turn2Us grants search** is a comprehensive database of grants and contact details: [www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk)
- **Turn2Us** administer 2 grants which AUKW can apply to:
  - Turn2Us response fund – for clients experiencing a significant life event in the last 12months
  - Elizabeth Finn fund – for clients of certain specified professions



Contact us for further information & advice on a variety of topics.

## Age UK Publications

Help with heating costs (FS1)

Help with health costs (FS61)

Home improvements and repairs (FS67)

Save energy, pay less (IG30)

More money in your pocket (IG43)

Getting help with debt (IG57)

Request a free publication from Age UK – Tel: 0800 169 6565 or visit:

[www.ageuk.org.uk/publications](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/publications)

### Boiler/heating system repairs or replacement:

- Age UK Wiltshire '**Spread the Warmth**' leaflet has grants, schemes and relevant local organisations listed.
- Check if you're entitled to **Warm Home Discount** from your electricity supplier.
- Check if you're entitled to **Surviving Winter grant** from Wiltshire Community Foundation.
- Contact your supplier to ask about grants.

### White goods, furniture and housing costs

- Local authorities have **local welfare provision** for urgent emergencies e.g. supermarket gift cards, white goods, pre-payment meter cards. Contact your local council for details.
- Local authorities *may* have funding for rent deposit schemes to help people with costs of moving into private rented property – contact your local council.
- Local **furniture re-use charities** offer low-cost items (sometimes free!) to those on a low income.

### Home adaptations and repairs

- You can request a **free care needs assessment** from your Local Authority adult social care team. This could result in up to **£1000 of free aids/equipment** and/or a means-tested **Disabled Facilities Grant** for larger adaptations e.g. wet room or stairlift. (FS42)
- Local authorities may offer subsidised loans or grants in *exceptional* cases. Contact the 'private sector housing renewal' team at your local council.

### What other money could you be entitled to?

- You may qualify for **help with NHS health costs** (NHS Low Income Scheme tel: 0300 330 1343). Some people on means-tested benefits automatically qualify, but you can still apply if you have less than £16000 capital.
- There may be **discounts on your utility bills** if you are on a low income, or you could switch supplier.
- If you have debts, seek **free debt advice** to help (IG57).
- A free **benefits check** will ensure you are maximising your entitlement to welfare benefits

### Useful organisations

**KFR (Kennet Refurbiz)** 01380  
720200 [www.kfr.org.uk/](http://www.kfr.org.uk/)

Furniture charity covering all  
of Wiltshire

**Friends of the Elderly grants**  
020 7730 8263  
[www.fote.org.uk](http://www.fote.org.uk)

**Turn2Us grants search** 020  
8834 9200  
[www.turn2us.org.uk/](http://www.turn2us.org.uk/)

**Wiltshire Citizens' Advice**  
03444 111 444  
[www.citizensadvicewiltshire.org.uk/](http://www.citizensadvicewiltshire.org.uk/)

**Swindon Citizens' Advice**  
03444 994 114  
[www.citizensadvicewindon.org.uk/](http://www.citizensadvicewindon.org.uk/)