

Kingston Churches Housing Association

The Caring Professionals

Hardship Fund

At KCHA, we are committed to ensuring our tenants 'thrive' in the homes and communities within which they live. We aim to achieve this by providing decent homes and delivering high quality housing related services. We don't stop there though. One of the tasks for everyone from the front line up to the Boardroom is to continually ask ourselves, is there something more we can do?

After two years of being in lockdown, owing to a worldwide pandemic, we have all been immediately faced with a cost of living crisis. At KCHA we recognise that no one could have foreseen the events of the last few years, and there will of course be some people who will suffer additional hardship. This may tip the scales and prevent them from being able to thrive.

The purpose of this KCHA Fund is to alleviate the stress and trauma caused by financial hardship and poverty. We will provide one-off grants for our residents who are facing severe financial difficulty, or an unexpected cost that may result in undue hardship.

How do I apply and what happens next?

Tenants are required to submit the attached application form via email or the KCHA website.

Applications will be treated in the strictest confidence by KCHA staff members.

All applicants will be means tested and required to engage with KCHA on a plan to maximise income and minimise expenditure.

Successful applicants will be awarded a small grant as a one-off payment towards household items debts, or unexpected expenses, to help restore a degree of financial balance. The amount will be decided on a case by case basis at KCHA's discretion.

Grants awarded are discretionary and will be determined by a finite annual budget.

You will not be expected to repay the grant.

What can I use the Grant for?

- Energy costs (in certain cases)
- Essential furniture (bed, mattress, table and chairs etc)
- Food vouchers
- Funeral expenses
- School uniforms
- Training fees
- White goods (fridge, cooker etc)
- Work related travel expenses

The above is not intended as an exhaustive list, nor will it guarantee a successful application. It is provided for illustrative purposes.

Am I eligible to make an application for a grant?

To be eligible for the KCHA grant you must:

- Be a current tenant/resident of KCHA
- Not have made a claim for a KCHA grant within the last 12 months
- Demonstrate financial hardship
- Be willing to undertake an income/expenditure management plan with KCHA

KCHA will make every effort to make sure the application process is fair and accessible to all of our residents. All applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis and all decisions will be notified to residents with the reason(s) for the decision.

If you would like to speak to one of our staff to discuss the Hardship Fund, please contact your Housing Officers, Heidi Rodgers on 07951 966457 or Jodie Kirk on 07534 077055 or email office@kcha.co.uk

Hardship Fund Application Form 2023

Your Name:	
Address:	
Email:	
Telephone Number:	
How much grant are you requesting?	
What will you be using the grant for?	
What difference will this make to your life?	
Do you agree to work with KCHA on an income and expenditure management plan.	
Sign & Date	

OFFICE USE ONLY: APPROVED / DENIED Sign & Date	
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Please submit completed form to office@kcha.co.uk or use our online form at www.kcha.co.uk

To protect the interests of the Association, KCHA reserve the right to withdraw the fund at any stage, without notice.