

Home Heating Support Fund

Is a £4 million support fund from the Scottish Government

Is there to help people with fuel debt and can make a substantial difference to fuel debt issues. Some applicants have had £100's and into the low £1,000's worth of fuel debt cleared

Is open for a short window of time. All applications have to be in and cleared before the end of March 2022. It operates on a first come first served basis

Applications can not be made by individuals, but must be made by a referral partner who offers debt or energy advice i.e. Changeworks, CABx etc.

In the majority of cases successful applicants will have direct payments made to their fuel supplier

The fund is open to those who are self-rationing i.e. limiting the amount of heating they have on or what they spend on heating due to financial difficulties

The fund is administered through Advice Direct Scotland

Applications have to show the eligibility and need evidence - this will differ depending on circumstance but may be a fuel bill, proof of address, proof of age if over 75, proof of receipt of certain benefits etc. Hard copies are evidence are not required. Screen shots etc are acceptable. If someone has already engaged with energy or financial advice this is also classed as proof. All of this will be gone through with the advisor who is putting in the application.

Applications can be made for solid fuel, oil and lpg, as well as gas and electricity debt

If someone couldn't access debt or energy advice locally, they can contact Advice Direct Scotland directly to have their eligibility assessed and an application made on their behalf if appropriate. 0808 800 9060 [advice.scot](https://advice.scot.nhs.uk)

More information on the HHSF can be found here: [homeheatingadvice.scot](https://homeheatingadvice.scot.nhs.uk)

If anyone has any queries, then please feel free to contact me and I'll do my best to answer them.

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