

Debt advice & employment support

If you are having financial issues or trouble finding a job, find out about services that could provide practical advice and support.

Financial issues

Persons facing homelessness are frequently faced with rent or mortgage arrears, loss of income due to the benefit cap, and unemployment. You may need to seek advice around claiming benefits, money management, prioritising debts, or negotiating with creditors. You may also need support to start training, education, or seeking employment.

Get advice

You should seek advice regarding your financial situation as soon as possible. You can get debt or money advice over the phone or online.

StepChange and National Debtline are national debt advice charities which can help manage debt for free.

Stepchange | 0800 138 1111 and online at <https://www.stepchange.org/>

National Debtline | 0808 808 4000 and online at <https://www.nationaldebtline.org/>

Shelter and Barnet Citizen's Advice Bureau can provide advice over the phone or at a local advice centre.

Shelter | 0808 800 4444

Barnet Citizens Advice Bureau | 0300 456 8365

You may also need assistance with claiming Housing Benefit or managing Council Tax Payments. Advice and support for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Payments.

Housing Benefit & Council Tax | 0208 359 2111

Online: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/council-tax-and-benefits/housing-benefit-and-council-tax-support>

Email: benefits@barnet.gov.uk

Applying to Barnet Homes for assistance

You can approach our Housing Options service for assistance if you are homeless or at risk of homelessness. We will give you advice about finding somewhere to live and may make referrals to other organisations. We will open a homelessness application for you, and if you are eligible for assistance and are homeless or threatened with homelessness within 56 days you will be helped by one of your frontline teams. We may be able to prevent your homelessness if you are being evicted due to rent arrears or your property has become unaffordable. If you qualify for assistance with rehousing, we may provide emergency accommodation and we can help you move to a property in the private rented sector. Phone Housing Options on **020 8610 3539** for advice and assistance.

Our Welfare Reform Task Force provides support and financial help with discretionary housing payment, council tax discretionary relief, crisis funds, free school meals, free childcare advice and free early education.

Welfare Reform Task Force | 0208 359 2442

Email: welfarereformtaskforce@barnet.gov.uk

Other services that can help

Jobcentre Plus | 0846 604 3719

Advice and support for training and employment.

Shelter | 0808 252 7645 (emergency) 0808 163 1462 (non-emergency)

Housing and homelessness advice charity, helping with homelessness, evictions, private renting, benefits and more.

Online: <https://england.shelter.org.uk/>

5E Employment Training & Support | 0208 352 5656

Employment support, employability and study programmes for young persons.

Online: <http://www.fivee.co.uk/>

Email: info@fivee.co.uk

Welfare Rights Advisors | 0800 389 8312

Information, advice, and support service for financial issues and claiming benefits.

Rainbow Money Advice | 0208 441 9837

Free, impartial money advice on Tuesday mornings, by appointment.

Email: moneyadvice@barnetcp.org.uk

Address: Rainbow Centre Dollis Valley Drive EN5 2UN

New Horizon Youth Centre | Employment and training support for 16-21 year olds.

Tel: 020 7388 5560

Email: info@nhyouthcentre.org.uk

Helplines

Money Advice Service | 0800 138 7777

Debt Advice Foundation | 0800 043 40 50