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CC: Debbie Brown (deborah.brown@cleobury.org.uk) <deborah.brown@cleobury.org.uk>

Date: Nov 9, 2020 10:51:24 AM

Subject: Help for vulnerable and people in crisis

Dear all

Please see the information below to help those in our community who may need it please circulate to all your councillors etc and signpost anybody who may need help

## Local Support and Prevention Fund (LSPF).

This scheme is targeted at helping vulnerable people to meet their immediate short term needs in the event of a crisis and also to support vulnerable people to live independently in the community. All awards made are non-repayable and may be made up of awards in kind such as food parcels, furniture or fuel credits.

All requests will be considered on an individual basis with due account given to the vulnerability and personal circumstances of each customer. An individual's personal circumstances, the amount requested and the importance of the need within the circumstances will form the basis for the prioritisation of awards. People are advised to use alternative avenues of help and funding where this is practicable and reasonable.

The team administering the scheme aims to not just provide the immediate support required to people but to encourage them to seek support in order to avoid them finding themselves in a crisis situation in the future.

## How can people apply for help under this scheme?

- People can contact our Welfare Reform and Support Team on 0345 678 9078
- They can ask for a paper form
- · They can complete a telephone application
- They can download a printable form from the relevant council web page for LSPF
  <a href="https://new.shropshire.gov.uk/benefits/what-help-can-i-claim-from-the-council/local-support-and-prevention-fund/">https://new.shropshire.gov.uk/benefits/what-help-can-i-claim-from-the-council/local-support-and-prevention-fund/</a>
- If they have a support worker, we consider written letters of support for the application where these are provided
- · Each application is considered on its own merits within our frameworks for provision.

If you have any customers who you think may qualify for an award of LSPF, please signpost them to us.

## A grant to help Shropshire residents affected by COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Shropshire Council has been allocated a 'Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies' to support people who are struggling to afford food and other essentials due to COVID-19.

If someone you know finds it difficult to pay for some of their essential costs due to COVID-19, or you know someone who has become homeless or is concerned about losing their home, they can call us on 0345 678 9078. We will go through an initial application with them to establish their circumstances and will advise them of any other information we need to provide for us to consider their application. The request will then be passed to a specialist adviser who will discuss the application with them. When the Council has all the

information it needs, a decision will be made on whether an award can be made and they will advise the person how the award will be made.

The Council is able to accept applications with immediate effect so please signpost people through to us if you think they are eligible to apply.

Please note that this is limited funding and once spent, we will no longer be able to provide assistance from this grant funding so please don't delay.

If you have any queries regarding this grant, please contact us on 0345 678 900

Many thanks

Stay safe

Gwilym Butler



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