

# Thank-you for downloading the

# Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit claim form

Please read the notes at the front of this document **BEFORE** completing the claim form. You will need to print out the complete form and answer every question.

# **Copeland Borough Council** Housing & Council Tax Benefit Claim Form

Benefits Section, The Copeland Centre, Catherine Street, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 7SJ Tel: 0845 054 8600 Fax: 01946 598308 E-mail: benefits@copelandbc.gov.uk

Please tell us your full name and address.

Don't delay - claim today!

Please return this form as quickly as possible, even if you do not have everything we ask for. You can send the rest to us later.

# Filling in the form

- Use blue or black ink to fill in the form. Do not use pencil. If you make a mistake, just cross it out and put the right answer next to it. Do not use correction fluid or tape. Please initial any alterations.
- Answer 'Yes or No' questions by ticking ✓ the relevant box. If you are picking an answer from a list of answers, put a tick in the relevant box. Do not put a cross in any boxes. If you answer a question with a cross or do not answer a question we will have to send the form back, and this will delay the claim.
- If someone fills in the form for you, there is a special space for them to sign in Part 18. You must sign Part 18 as well.
- If you need help filling in this form, require large print, braille or another language, we can help. Please phone 0845 054 8600.
- Please send the form back to us straight away to make sure you do not lose any benefit. Your benefit will normally start from the Monday after we receive the form. In the form, we ask for proof of your income, rent and so on. If you don't yet have all the proof we need, send in the form now and send the proof later. You have 1 month from the date we receive the form to send in the proof.

### Please return the form either by post to:

• Benefit Section, The Copeland Centre, Catherine Street, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 7SJ.

#### Or in person by visiting

Customer Contact Centre at the Copeland Centre: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8.45am - 5.15pm; Wednesday 10.00am - 5.15pm; Friday 8.45am - 4.30pm

Millom Council Office: St George's Road, Millom, LA18 4DD Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00 pm

Cleator Moor Council Office: Local Links, Market Square, Cleator Moor, Cumbria CA25 5AP Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm Wednesday and Saturday 9.00am - 12.00pm

For office use	
1st Contact on	
Issued on	
Reference No.	



# Notes for filling in the claim form

# About this form

The Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit claim form has been specially designed to be easy to fill in. It is long, but we have to ask a lot of questions to make sure that everyone who claims gets the right amount of benefit.

You may not have to fill in all parts of the form, but you must fill in any part that is relevant to you. Every part starts with a question to help you decide if you need to fill in that part.

#### Second Adult Rebate

Second Adult Rebate is Council Tax Benefit you can get if you share your home with someone who:

• is not your partner; and • is 18 or over; and • is on a low income; and • does not pay you rent.

If you are claiming Second Adult Rebate, only fill in Parts 1, 3, 15, 16, 17 and 18.

#### **Child Benefit**

From November 2nd 2009 Child Benefit will no longer be counted as an income when assessing your claim, however Child Benefit will still be taken into account as a non dependant's income.

#### Capital

From November 2nd 2009 the lower capital limit for the over 60's has been increased from £6,000 to £10,000, this means that when assessing your claim the first £10,000 of savings for the over 60's will be disregarded.

#### Evidence

We need to see evidence of some of the things you tell us about. The checklist at the end of the form will help you. If you are not sure if we need to see evidence of something, get in touch with us. We will tell you what we need to see. We cannot pay you benefit until we have seen the evidence we have asked for.

# How we collect and use information

We will use the information you give in this form, and in any supporting evidence you send us, to process your claim for Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and other Welfare Benefits.

We may pass the information to other agencies or organisations such as the Department for Work and Pensions and HM Revenue and Customs, as allowed by law.

We may check information you have provided, or information about you that someone else has provided, with other information we hold. We may also get information about you from certain third parties, or give them information, to:

• make sure the information is accurate; and • prevent or detect crime; and • protect public funds.

These third parties include government departments, local authorities and private-sector companies such as banks and organisations that may lend you money.

We will not give information about you to anyone else, or use information about you for other purposes, unless the law allows us to.

The Council is the data controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act. If you want to know more about what information we have about you, or the way we use it, please ask us.

**When Benefit has been awarded** Once your claim for benefit has processed, your claim will be reviewed at regular intervals. This may involve a visit to your home from our Visiting Officer which may be un-notified. Alternatively we may send you a form by post for you to complete and return to the Council with all relevant supporting evidence.

# Changes you must tell us about

You must tell us straightaway if your circumstances change. You can do this by phoning us on 0845 054 8600, sending an e-mail to benefits@copelandbc.gov.uk, or by visiting our website at www.copeland.gov.uk. You will need to write to us to confirm that your circumstances have changed and provide proof of what the change is. You can also call into one of our offices to tell us about a change. You must do this within one month of the date of the change or you may lose benefit. If you are late telling us about a change in your circumstances you should tell us the reason for being late. A change of circumstances could be things like the following:

- If you or your partner start of stop getting Income Support or any other state benefit
- If you or your partner start or stop getting Working Tax Credit or Chid Tax Credit, or the amounts increase or decrease
- If you or your partner's wages change
- If the number of people living with you changes
- If any of your children leave school
- If you move, including moving flats or rooms in the same building
- If you have another child

These are examples. There are also other things that you need to tell us about.

If you receive Pension Credit, you must report certain changes in circumstances to The Pension Service. This includes:

• a change in your income; • you have a new partner; • you become single; • you move into permanent residential care.

#### For office use only **Copeland Borough Council** Date form was requested Housing & Council Tax Benefit Claim Form Benefits Section, The Copeland Centre, Catherine Street, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 7SJ Date form was issued Tel: 0845 054 8600 Fax: 01946 598308 E-mail: benefits@copelandbc.gov.uk Date received at office (date stamp) Initials A claim form for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit If you are just claiming Second Adult Rebate, only a housing association or Are vou (please a private tenant? an owner-occupier? fill in Parts 1, 3, 15, 16, 17 and 18 of this form. social landlord tenant? tick one box) Part 1 About you and your partner Do you have a partner who normally lives with you? No We use partner to mean: Yes I If you have a partner, you must answer all the • a person you are married to or a person you live with as if you are married to them; or guestions about them, as well as yourself. • a civil partner or a person you live with as if you are civil partners. You Your partner Surname or family name Other names Any other names you have used Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, other) Address, including room number if you have one Do not tell us your partner's address if it is the same as yours. Postcode Postcode

	You	Your partner
What date did you move to this address?	/ /	/ /
Your daytime phone number	Code Number	Code Number
What is this number? Please tick.	Home 🗌 Work 🗌 Mobile 🗌 Textphone 🗌	Home Work Mobile Textphone
Date of birth	/ /	/ /
National Insurance (NI) number You can find this on payslips or letters from the Department for Work and Pensions or the tax office. We cannot normally decide your claim if we do not have your NI number. We need to see proof of this.	Letters Numbers Letter	Letters Numbers Letter
Have you or your partner claimed Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit before?	No Yes Please tell us about it below.	No Ves Please tell us about it below.
When did you last claim?	/ /	
Which council did you claim from?		
What name did you use for the claim?		
What address did you claim for?		
	Postcode	Postcode
If you have moved from this address, have you told the council you claimed from?	No Yes	No Yes
If you or your partner have moved home in the last 12 months, tell us your last address if it is different from above.		
	Postcode	Postcode
Tell us whether you were the homeowner, a private tenant, a council tenant or a lodger at this address.	We need to see proof of your and your partner's identity a	

we need to see proof of your and your partner's identity and NI number. See the checklist at Part 16.

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	You	Your partner
Have you or your partner come to live in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the Republic of Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man in the last two years?	No Yes We may write to you about this.	No Yes We may write to you about this.
What is your nationality?		
If your nationality is not British, on what date did you last enter and apply to stay in the UK? The UK is England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.	/ /	/ /
Are you or your partner in hospital	Νο	No
at the moment?	Yes Please tell us about it below.	Yes Please tell us about it below.
When did you go in?	/ /	/ /
When will you come out, if you know?	/ /	/ /
Do you or your partner get Disability Living Allowance?	No Yes How much? Care f Mobility f	No Ves How much? Care f Mobility f
Do you or your partner get Attendance Allowance?	No Yes We need to see proof of this.	No Yes We need to see proof of this.
Does anyone get Carer's Allowance for looking after you or your partner?	NoYesWe need to see proof of this.	NoYesWe need to see proof of this.
Do you or your partner pay	No	No
towards the upkeep of a student?	YesHow much do you pay and how often?fevery	Yes How much do they pay and how often?
Are you or your partner a student?	Νο	No
By <i>student</i> we mean anyone who is on a course of study at an educational	Yes 🔲 Tell us if this is full- or part-time.	<b>Yes</b> Tell us if this is full- or part-time.
establishment, including student nurses.	Full-time Part-time	Full-time Part-time

	You	Your partner
Please tick if you or your partner are	e:	
an apprentice		
on youth training		
in legal custody		
<ul> <li>severely mentally impaired</li> </ul>		
registered blind		
<ul> <li>long-term sick or disabled</li> </ul>		
Do you or your partner have a	Νο	No
vehicle from a Mobility scheme?	Yes	Yes

We will contact you if we need any more information.

# Part 2 About children

We need to know about any children in your household who are:

- under 16;
- aged 16 or 17 and registered for work or youth training; or
- aged 16 and over but still under 20 and in education doing a course not higher than GCE A-level, SCE Higher level or GNVQ (advanced).

No

Are there any children in your household as described above?

	Go	to	Part	3.

Yes I If there are more than three children, use a separate sheet of paper to tell us all the information we ask for on this page and send it with the form.

#### If you are sending a separate sheet of paper, tick this box.

	First child	Second child	Third child
Surname or family name			
Other names			
Date of birth	/ /	/ /	/ /
What is the child's sex?			
The child's relationship to you			

# Part 2 About children continued

	First child	Second child	Third child
The child's relationship to your partner			
Usual address, if different from yours			
Child Benefit number			
Who gets the Child Benefit for them? We need to see proof of this.			
Does the child have any savings?	No Yes How much are their savings?	No Yes How much are their savings?	No Yes How much are their savings?
Is the child registered blind?	NoYesWe need to see proof of this.	NoYesWe need to see proof of this.	NoYesWe need to see proof of this.
Does the child get Disability Living Allowance?	No Yes How much? Care <u>f</u> Mobility <u>f</u>	No Yes How much? Care <u>f</u> Mobility <u>f</u>	No Yes How much? Care <u>f</u> Mobility <u>f</u>
	Part or all of these costs would be disr	egarded from your income if you show e	vidence.
Do you or your partner pay any childminding costs for this child to a registered childminder, a nursery or an after-school club?	No Yes Please tell us about it below.	No Yes Please tell us about it below.	No Yes Please tell us about it below.
Tell us the name and registration number of the minder.			
How much do you pay a week?	£ a week	f a week	f a week

We need to see proof of this.

We need to see proof of this.

We need to see proof of this.

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# Part 3 About other people who live with you

Now tell us about all the people who usually live with you and your partner. Do not tell us about people who just share a hall, bathroom or toilet with you. If you want to tell us about more than three people, use a separate sheet of paper.

If you are sending a separate sheet of paper, tick this box.

heating?

Do any adults usually live with you and your partner?	
By adults we mean people aged 16 or over who nobody gets Child Benefit for.	

Yes

No Go to Part 4.

Yes 🔲 Fill in this section.

	First person	Second person	Third person
Surname or family name			
Other names			
Date of birth	/ /	/ /	/ /
Their relationship to you or your partner			
Some examples are aunt, brother, daughter	r, father, grandson, grandmother, stepdaught	ter, joint tenant, joint owner, subtenant, lodge	er, boarder or friend.
Do they get Income Support, income- based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit) or income- related Employment and Support Allowance?	No Yes	No Yes	No Yes
Do they get Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance?	No Yes How much? f a week	No Yes How much? f a week	No Yes How much? f a week
Are they registered blind?	No Ves	No Yes	No Yes
Are they a full-time student, a student nurse, a care worker, an apprentice or on youth training?	No Yes Tell us which.	No Yes Tell us which.	No Yes Tell us which.
Do they pay rent or money for board and lodgings to you or your partner?	No Yes Tell us about it below. How much? f a week	No Yes Tell us about it below. How much? <u>f</u> a week	No Yes Tell us about it below. How much? <u>f</u> a week
Does this include money for food?	No Yes	No Yes	No Yes
Does this include money for	No	No	No

Yes

Yes

# Part 3 About other people who live with you continued

	First person	Second person	Third person
Are they severely mentally impaired?	No	No	No
······································	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are they in legal custody at the	No	No	No
moment?	<b>Yes</b> When are they expected to come out?	Yes When are they expected to come out?	<b>Yes</b> When are they expected to come out?
Are they in hospital at the moment?	No	No	Νο
	Yes 🔲 Tell us about it below.	Yes 🗌 Tell us about it below.	Yes 🗌 Tell us about it below.
When did they go in?	/ /	/ /	/ /
When are they due to come out (if you know)?	/ /	/ /	/ /
Do they normally work for 16 hours	No	Νο	Νο
or more a week?	Yes 🔲 Tell us their earnings before any	Yes 🔲 Tell us their earnings before any	Yes 📘 Tell us their earnings before any
	deductions.	deductions.	deductions.
	f	f	f
	We need to see proof of their earnings.	We need to see proof of their earnings.	We need to see proof of their earnings.
Do they have any other income at all?	No	No	No
Make sure you tell us about all other income they have.	Yes 🔲 Tell us about it below.	Yes Tell us about it below.	Yes Tell us about it below.
This includes any benefits or allowances you	a have not told us about on this form and inte	erest from savings and investments.	
1 Where does this income come from?			
How much is it before deductions?	f	f	f
2 Where does this income come from?			

f

How much is it before deductions?	f

3 Where does this income come from?

How much is it before deductions?

We need to see proof of their income.

f

 f
 f

 We need to see proof of their income.
 We

We need to see proof of their income.

£

Are any of the people who normally live with you married to each other, civil partners, or living together as if they are married or civil partners? We call these people partners.

No		
Yes 🔲 Tell us their names below.	is the partner of	
	is the partner of	

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#### Part 4 About Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit) and income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Are you or your partner getting or waiting to hear about a claim for Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit) or income-related Employment and Support Allowance?

Allowance?

related Employment and Support

No	Go	to I	Part	5.
----	----	------	------	----

Yes Answer both the guestions in this part and then go to Part 5.

	You	Your partner
Which benefit are you or your partner getting or waiting to hear about?	Income SupportIncome-based Jobseeker's AllowancePension Credit (Guarantee Credit)Income-related Employmentand Support Allowance	Income Support
Are you or your partner actually getting Income Support, income- based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit) or income-related Employment and Support Allowance at the moment?	No	No
Are you or your partner still waiting to hear about a claim for Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit) or income-	No Ves When did you claim? / /	No

We must see proof of your benefits, allowances or pension before we can decide how much benefit you can get. Read the checklist at Part 16 to see what you can use as proof.

# Part 5 About being self-employed

pa	g	е	9

Are you or your partner self-employed?	No Go to Part 6. Yes Answer the questions on this page. You must send us your trading accounts for the last fin not have a full year's accounts, we will need to see so	nancial year. If you have only recently set up the business and do me other proof of your income. We will write to you about this. Your partner
What kind of work do you do?		
When did the business start?	/ /	/ /
What is the business address?		
	Postcode	Postcode
Is the company a limited company?	No Yes If so, how many Directors does the company have?	No Yes If so, how many Directors does the company have?
Do you have any business partners?	No Yes Tell us their name and address.	No Yes Tell us their name and address.
	Postcode	Postcode
How many hours a week do you usually work?		
Do you get a Business Start-up Allowance?	No Yes How much and how often? f every	No Yes How much and how often? f every
Do you pay into a private pension scheme?	No Second	No Yes How much and how often?
	f every	f every

We must see proof of your earnings before we can decide how much benefit you can get. Read the checklist at **Part 16** to see what you can use as proof. Please request self-employment proforma from us if you do not have a full set of accounts.

#### Part 6 About working for an employer

Do you or your partner work for an employer?

No	Go to	Part 7.
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Yes Answer the questions on this page. If you or your partner work for more than one employer, tell us about all the employers on a separate sheet of paper and send it with this form.

If you are sending a separate sheet of paper, tick this box.

	You	Your partner
ork do you do?		
nployer's name and		
	Postcode	Postcode
tart this job?	/ /	/ /
yroll, employee or		
ed for a limited	No	No
	Yes When will you finish? / /	Yes When will you finish? / /
ou get paid and how	f every	f every
id, for example, in e or straight into a g society account?		
last pay rise?	/ /	/ /
next pay rise be?	/ /	/ /
rs a week do you		
Statutory Sick Pay Paternity Pay (SPP), r Statutory Maternity your employer at	No Yes	No Yes
any other sick pay	Νο	Νο
y from your e moment?	Yes	Yes
a private or	Νο	Νο
on scheme?	Yes How much and how often? £ every	Yes How much and how often? f every

We must see proof of any earnings before we can decide how much benefit you can get. We need to see 5 weekly or 3 fortnightly or 2 monthly payslips. Read the checklist at Part 16 to see what you can use as proof. If you get tips or bonuses, tell us about these in Part 15.

What kind of w

What is your em address?

When did you	start	this	job?	
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What is your pay staff number?

Are you employ period?

How much do y often?

How are you paid cash, by cheque bank or building

When was your

When will your

How many hour usually work?

Are you getting (SSP), Statutory Adoption Pay of Pay (SMP) from the moment?

Are you getting or maternity pa employer at the

Do you pay into company pensic

#### Part 7 About any other work

# Go to Part 8. Do you or your partner do any other work at all? No This could be voluntary work or any other work, even if it is not paid work. Answer the questions in this section. Yes You Your partner What other work do you do? What is the name and address of the person you do this work for? When did you start this work? How many hours a week do you

usually work?

### Do you get paid?

If you only get expenses or tips, still tick Yes and give details.

How much do you get paid and how often?

Postcode	Postcode
	No
fes Tell us about it below.	Yes Tell us about it below.
£ every	£ every
We must see preaf of any earnings before we can deside	how much honofit you can get We need to see 5 weekly

<u>Ne must see proof of any earnings before we can decide how much benefit you can get. We need to see 5 weekly</u> or 3 fortnightly or 2 monthly payslips. Read the checklist at Part 16 to see what you can use as proof.

No

Yes

Go to Part 9.

Tell us about the benefits below.

#### Part 8 About benefits, tax credits and state pensions

Are you or your partner getting any of the benefits or credits listed below, or are you waiting to hear about benefits or credits you have claimed? Read the list of benefit and credits below and tell us about any that you or your partner are getting now or have claimed. Please put a line through any boxes that do not apply to you or your partner. We will need to see evidence of the benefit or credit, such as an award letter.

	Y	You		Your partner		
Pensions	Yes	How much do you get?	How often is it paid?	Yes	How much do you get?	How often is it paid?
State retirement pension		£			f	
Pension Credit (Savings Credit)		f			f	
Widow's Allowance or Bereavement Allowance		f			f	

# Part 8 About benefits, tax credits and state pensions continued

	You		Your partner	
Pensions	Yes How much do you get?	How often is it paid?	Yes How much do you get?	How often is it paid?
Widowed Parent's Allowance or Widow's Pension	f		f	
War Widow's or War Dependant's Pension	f		f	
War Disablement Pension	f		f	
Industrial Injury/Disablement Pension	f		f	
Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance	f		f	
Benefits and allowances				
Contribution-based Job Seeker's Allowance	f		f	
Child Tax Credit	f		f	
Working Tax Credit	f		f	
Employment Training Allowance	f		f	
Child Benefit	f		f	
Short-term Incapacity Benefit	f		f	
Long-term Incapacity Benefit	f		f	
Attendance Allowance	f		f	
Disability Living Allowance:				
Mobility Component	f		f	
Care Component	f		f	
Carer's Allowance	f		f	
Severe Disablement Allowance	f		f	
Maternity Allowance	f		f	
Fostering Allowance	f		f	
Are you repaying a Social Fund loan or overpayment for any of these benefits?	No Yes I If yes, which one?			
Have you or your partner deferred (put off) receiving a pension?	No Yes I If yes, please give det	ails		

# Part 9 About other money coming in

Do you or your partner:

- have any money coming in that you have not already told us about?
- expect to have any other money coming in?

Have you or your partner delayed receiving any other money?

This includes occupational pensions, work pensions, and private pensions, pension protection fund payments, maintenance or child support for you, your partner or any of the children you have told us about on this form, money from a trust fund, training allowances, a student grant or loan, and any cash payments. Also tell us about any money you get from people living in your house as boarders, lodgers or subtenants. No Go to Part 10.

Yes Answer the questions on this page. You do not need to tell us about payments from the Independent Living Fund, the Eileen Trust, the MacFarlane Trust or the Skipton Fund.

	Other money 1	Other money 2	Other money 3
What is the money for?			
Who gets it?			
How much do they get?	£	f	f
How often?	Every	Every	Every
How is this paid?			
When did they start getting this income?			
When is the income likely to go up?	/ /		
Does anyone owe money to you or your partner?	No Yes Tell us about it below.	No Yes Tell us about it below.	No Yes Tell us about it below.
What for?			
How much?	f	f	f
Who is it owed to?			
Are you or your partner expecting to get any money in the next 12 months? For example, a redundancy payment or a payment instead of notice or holiday.	No Yes Tell us about it below.	No Yes Tell us about it below.	No Yes Tell us about it below.
What for?			
How much?	f	f	f
	We must see proof of any money co at <b>Part 16</b> to see what you can use	oming in before we can decide how much as proof.	benefit you can get. Read the checklist

# Part 10 About bank, building society or Post Office accounts

Do you or your partner have any bank, building society or Post Office accounts?

No	Go to	Part	11.
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Yes Tell us about all your accounts, even empty or overdrawn ones or accounts you don't use very often. If there are more than 5 accounts, tell us about the others on a separate sheet of paper and send it with this form.

If you are a sending a separate sheet of paper, tick this box.

Assessment 1	News of book or building		
Account 1	Name of bank or building society or Post Office	Account number	
	Whose name is the account in?	How much is in the account?	f
Account 2	Name of bank or building society or Post Office	Account number	
	Whose name is the account in?	How much is in the account?	£
Account 3	Name of bank or building society or Post Office	Account number	
	Whose name is the account in?	How much is in the account?	£
Account 4	Name of bank or building society or Post Office	Account number	
	Whose name is the account in?	How much is in the account?	f
A second E	News of least or building		
Account 5	Name of bank or building society or Post Office	Account number	
	Whose name is the account in?	How much is in	6
	whose name is the account in?	the account?	£

# Part 11 About capital, savings, shares and investments

**Do you or your partner have any capital, savings or investments in the UK or abroad?** This includes Cash, Premium Bonds, National Savings Certificates, and stocks and shares.

Do you or your partner have any	
premium bonds?	

Do you or your partner have any National Savings Certificates?

No	Go to <b>Part 12</b> .
----	------------------------

Yes Answer all the questions in this part. We must see evidence of all the capital, savings and investments.

No Yes Valuef		
NoImage: Second sec		
lssue number	Value f	How many?
lssue number	Value £	How many?
lssue number	Value £	How many?

# Part 11 About capital, savings, shares and investments continued

Do you or your partner have any stocks, shares, bonds or unit trusts?	No Yes Please enter details below.			
	Company name	How many?	Value? f	
	Company name	How many?	Value? f	
	Company name	How many?	Value? £	
Do you or your partner have any other capital savings or investments? For example, cash, TESSAs, ISA, TOISAs, compensation, or any other money you have not told us about on this form.	No Yes Please enter details here.			
Do you or your partner or any children you are claiming for own or partly own any property, land or timeshare, other than the home you live in, either in the UK or abroad? Tick Yes even if you have a mortgage or loan due for the property, land or timeshare.	No Yes What is the address?	Postcode		
How much is it worth?	£			
If you have a mortgage or loan for this, how much is left to repay?	f			
Do any of your savings or investments include: • money from the sale of a house, or • money from a charity?	No   Image: Second se			
Have you or your partner received:	No			
<ul> <li>a Far Eastern Prisoner of War Compensation payment, or</li> </ul>	Yes 🔲 What payment did you receive?			
<ul> <li>a compensation payment, or victims of atrocities that happened</li> </ul>	A Far Eastern Prisoner of War Compensation payment	You	Your partner	
We need to know this to make sure we do not count it as part of your savings.	A compensation payment made to victims of atrocities that happened during the Second World War	You	Your partner	
Have you or your partner received a No payment from the vCJD (Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease) Trust? We will write to you about it.				
	We must see proof of any capital, savings or investments before Read the checklist at <b>Part 16</b> to see what you can use as proo		how much benefit you can get.	

# Part 12 About where you live

No

Yes

No

Yes Tell us about it below.

where in the building do you live?

Do you use your home for business?

Do you or your partner have a main home somewhere else?

If your main home is som or abroad, tick Yes, even for it.

If your main home is somewhor abroad, tick <b>Yes</b> , even if yo for it.						
What is the address?			Postcode			
Do you or your partner pay re home?	nt on this	No Yes How much?	£			
Do you own your home or h	ave a mortgage?	No Go to the nee Yes Go to Part 1	•			
What sort of building do you Tick one box only.	u live in?					
Detached house	Semi-detached bu	ngalow	Hostel		Other – give details	
Semi-detached house	Flat in a house		Caravan, mobile hon	ne or houseboat		
Terraced house	Flat in a block		Board and lodgings			
Maisonette	Flat over a shop		Hotel			
Detached bungalow	Bedsit or rooms o	r a studio flat	Care home			
<b>Does your home have any of</b> Tick the boxes that apply.	these?	central heating	a garden	a garage 📄 a	parking space	
Who is responsible for decoryour home?	rating					
How many floors are there?						
Do you and your household part of the building you hav		No Yes As you look	at the building from	At the le	eft At the right	

At the front

In the middle

At the back

part of the building you have ticked?

Which floors do you live on? For example, ground floor, first floor.

# Part 12 About where you live continued

How many rooms are there in the building?	In the whole building	Just for you and your household	That you share with other people
Living rooms			
Bedsitting rooms			
Bedrooms			
Bathrooms or shower rooms			
Toilets			
Kitchens			
Other rooms			

# Part 13 About rent

Who has to pay the Council Tax bill for your
home?
Tick the box that applies.

What is the Council Tax reference number?

**Do you or your partner pay rent for your home?** Tick **Yes** if you would pay rent but you already get Housing Benefit.

# What is your landlord's full name and business address?

By *landlord* we mean the person or organisation who owns the property you live in.

# If your landlord has an agent, tell us their full name and address.

By *agent* we mean the person or organisation you actually pay your rent to.

You or your partner	
Your landlord	
Someone else	Tell us who it is.

No	Go to <b>Part 15</b> .
Yes	Answer the next question.

Postcode	

Postcode
IUSICOUE

Is your landlord or agent, or your landlord's or the agent's partner:

- your former partner;
- your partner's former partner;
- related to you or your partner;
- · related to your children; or
- related to your partner's children?

*Related* includes related through marriage or civil partnership, even if it has ended. For example,

ex-wife, ex-husband, ex-civil partner, aunt, brother, daughter, father, grandson, grandmother, son-in-law or stepdaughter.

When did you or your partner start renting your home?

#### When did you move to this address?

If you have not moved in yet, tell us when you expect to move in, then tell us when you have actually moved in.

#### What sort of tenancy do you have?

For example, shorthold, assured tied rent or something like this.

How long is the tenancy for?

What is the property let as? Tick the box that applies.

How much rent do you or your partner pay and how often? For example, every week, every fortnight, every four weeks or monthly.

Tell us their names and their relationship to you and your partner.

How much of the rent do they pay and how often? For example, every week, every fortnight, every four weeks or monthly.

f

No

Yes

every

Has your rent changed in the last 12 months?

When is the next rent increase due?

No What is the relationship? Yes is my landlord's or agent's to Furnished Partly furnished Hardly any furniture Unfurnished £ everv No Yes Tell us the details below.

We must see proof of your rent and tenancy before we can decide how much benefit you can get. Read the checklist at **Part 16** to see what you can use as proof.

Send us proof of the date it changed and how much it changed.

# Part 13 About rent continued

Part 13 About rent continued		page			
Has your rent been registered as a fair rent by a rent officer?	No Yes Please send us the notice of registration form RO5.				
Do you have any weeks when you do not have to pay rent?	No Yes How many in a year?				
Are you behind with your rent?	No Yes By how many weeks?				
<b>Does your rent include money for the following?</b> Tick the boxes that apply.					
Meals	How much? <u>f</u> every				
	For which meals? Breakfast Lunch Evening meal				
Water authority charges	How much? <u>f</u> every				
Heating	How much? <u>f</u> every				
Lighting	How much? £ every				
Hot water	How much? <u>f</u> every				
Electricity	How much? £ every				
Fuel for cooking	How much? <u>f</u> every				
Laundry	How much? <u>f</u> every				
Cleaning rooms or windows	How much? <u>f</u> every				
Gardening	How much? <u>f</u> every				
Garage or parking space	How much? <u>f</u> every				
	Do you have to rent the garage as part No of your tenancy agreement? Yes				

19

Persona	l care	and	sup	port
---------	--------	-----	-----	------

Do you pay any service charges separate from your rent, for example, for cleaning or lighting in shared areas, an alarm system, a warden, general counselling or support, meals, or lift maintenance?

How much?	£	every			
How much?	£	every			
How much?	f	every			
How much?	f	every			
How much?	f	every			
How much?	£	every			
How much?	£	every			
How much?	£	every			
How much?	£	every			
How much?	£	every			
Do you have to of your tenanc		the garage as part No eement? Yes			
How much?	£	every			
No					
Yes How much? £ every					

What for?

## Part 13 About rent continued

Are you living away from home at the moment?	No
Why are you not living at home?	
When did you last live at home?	/ /
When do you expect to go back home?	/ /
What is the address of where you are living at the moment?	Postcode
Have you sublet your home?	No Ves Who lives there now?
We must see proof of your rent and tenancy before we can decide how much benefit you can get. Please use the tear out rent form on page 27. Read the checklist at <b>Part 16</b> to see what you can use as proof.	

# Part 14 About paying your benefit

#### Help with your rent if:

- you are a housing association tenant;
- you live in a caravan, houseboat or mobile home;
- your tenancy started before 15 January 1989;
- you were receiving Housing Benefit at this address before 7 April 2008 and there has not been a break in that claim; and
- your rent includes an amount for support services or board and lodging.

If you are entitled to help with your rent you will get Housing Benefit paid directly into your bank account.

If you come under the above list you can choose to have payment made to you or your landlord. Please tick this box if you would prefer payment to be paid to your landlord

#### Help with your rent if you are a private tenant who is not in any of the categories above

If you are entitled to help with your rent you will get Local housing Allowance. By law we must pay this to you unless you would not be able to manage your rent payments (for example, because you have a learning disability, have language problems, are ill, are in a lot of debt or are addicted to drugs, alcohol or gambling).

If you think you would not be able to manage your rent payments, tick this box.

If you can manage your rent payments will pay your Local Housing Allowance direct to you.

If you do not have a bank or building society account, tick this box.

# Part 14 About paying your benefit continued

Please note that we normally make payments by BACS.

Please provide details of your Bank or Building Society account.

Please note that there are some accounts that we are unable to make payments into, such as Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) and Post Office® Card Accounts. If you are unsure whether you have a suitable bank account or would like help to open an account, please contact us or your local Citizens Advice Bureau.

Name and full address of Bank or Building Society.	
	Postcode
Names on the account	
Branch sort code	
Account number	
Roll number (Building Society accounts)	

# Part 15 Anything else you need to tell us

Please use this space to tell us anything else you think we should know about.

Use a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this form if you need to.

If you are sending any separate sheets of paper with this form, tell us how many.

I am enclosing a filled-in Paying benefit to your landlord form.

I will send you a filled-in Paying benefit to your landlord form later.

# Part 16 Checklist

# Do not delay sending this form in.

Please tick to say what proof you are sending with this form. We must see original documents, not copies.

Please do not send valuable items through the post. If you can, bring them into our reception. We will take the details we need and give you the documents back straight away. If you cannot get into the office, phone us for more advice.

#### If you do not provide all the proof we need, we might not be able to pay you any benefit. We need the same proof for your partner, if you have one.

If you cannot send the proof we need at the moment, send the form back to us now and send the proof later. We can start to process your claim, but we will not be able to pay you any benefit until we have all the proof.

## • Proof of identity

Such as a birth certificate, marriage or civil partnership certificate, passport, medical card, driving licence, UK residence permit, EEC identity card or recent gas or electricity bill. We may need to see several of these documents for each person.

### • Proof of your address

Such as a recent gas or electricity bill or a TV licence.

## • Proof of National Insurance number

Such as a National Insurance number card, payslips or letters from the Department for Work and Pensions or the tax office.

## • Proof of savings and investments

Such as all your bank, building society or post office books, full bank statements, or certificates for Premium Bonds, National Savings Certificates, ISAs, stocks, shares and unit trusts. We need to see proof of any interest or dividends you get on investments and savings. The proof you send must show details for at least the last two months.

#### • Proof of earnings

#### We also need this for any other adults living in your home.

This means your last five payslips if you are paid every week, your last three payslips if you are paid every two weeks, or your last two payslips if you are paid every month. If you or your partner are self-employed, we need to see your accounts for the last financial year or, if you have been trading for less than six months, a summary of your trading records so far.

#### • Proof of other income

#### We also need this for any other adults living in your home.

Such as pension slips from a former employer or a letter from the court showing how much maintenance you are getting. We need to see proof of any money people pay you for board and lodgings.

#### • Proof of benefits, allowances or pensions

#### We also need this for any other adults living in your home.

Such as current award notices or letters from your JobcentrePlus office, Jobcentre, Department for Work and Pensions office or Pension Centre confirming how much you get. If you do not have proof, let us know straight away.

#### • Proof of private rent and tenancy

Such as a rent book, rent receipts, a tenancy agreement or a letter from your landlord.

#### Proof of other money paid out

Such as letters about student grants, maintenance agreements or receipts from registered childcarers.

# Make sure you read and sign the declaration on page 24.

# Part 17 Backdating

We can usually award benefit from the Monday after the day we receive your claim. Sometimes we can pay benefit from an earlier date if you have a good reason for not claiming earlier. If you want us to consider paying your benefit from an earlier date, tell us when you want benefit from and why you did not claim earlier.

If you are a pensioner and on Pension Credit, we can only backdate your benefit 3 months. If you are working age, we can backdate your benefit 6 months.

Date you want to claim benefit from

During this earlier period, were your circumstances different to those you have told us about on this form?

What has changed?

We need proof of change of your circumstances for this period.



Why have you not claimed before?



# Part 18 Declaration

Even if someone else has filled in this form for you, you must sign this declaration if you can. If you have a partner, getting them to sign this form should allow us to process your claim more quickly, but they do not have to sign.

Please read this declaration carefully before you sign and date it.

- I understand that this claim is made to you, my local council.
- I declare that the information I have given on this form is correct and complete as far as I know and believe.
- I understand that if I knowingly give information that is incorrect or incomplete, I may be liable to prosecution or other action.
- I agree that you will use the information I have provided to process my claim for Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit, or both. You may check some of the information with other sources as allowed by the law.
- I understand that you may use any information I have provided in connection with this and any other claim for state benefits that I have made or may make. You may give some information to other organisations, such as government departments, local authorities and private-sector companies such as banks and organisations that may lend me money, if the law allows this.
- I know that I must let you know in writing straight away about any change in my circumstances which might affect my claim.

Date

#### Signature of person claiming

Partner'	s s	igna	iture

5				
	Date			
		/	/	

If this form has been filled in by someone other than the person claiming Please tell us why you are filling in this form for the person claiming.

I declare that as far as possible, I have confirmed with the person claiming that the answers I have written on this form are correct.

Name of the person who filled in the form	
Signature	
Relationship to the person claiming	
Date	/ /

# Part 19 What to do next

You should now have:

- filled in and signed the claim form for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit;
- collected any proof to support your claim but remember not to send valuable items; and
- filled in the Paying benefit to your landlord form if you want any benefit you may be entitled to paid to your landlord.

Send the above documents to us straight away. You can find our address on the front of this form.

If you are going to send proof or a filled-in Paying benefit to your landlord form at a later date, send these to us. You can find our address on the front of this form.

### Sharing information with your landlord

Sharing information with your landlord could help us deal with your claim more quickly and reduce the risk of you falling behind with your rent because of your claim being delayed.

We may need to confirm information with your landlord before we can make a decision on your claim, for example, the start date of your tenancy. In these circumstances, we can contact your landlord without your permission.

By law, we must tell your landlord about certain decisions we make on your claim, for example, when we decide to pay your benefit to your landlord.

Under the Data Protection Act 1998, we need your permission to discuss anything else.

If you give us permission, we would be able to tell your landlord whether:

- you have claimed Housing Benefit;
- we have made a decision on your claim; or
- we need more information to make a decision on your claim, and what that information may be.

#### We will not give your landlord any information about:

- your personal or household circumstances; or
- your financial circumstances.

You can withdraw your permission at any time.

It will not affect your claim if you do not give us permission to discuss your claim with your landlord.

If you want to give us permission to discuss your claim with your landlord, please sign below.

I give you permission to share information about the progress of my Housing Benefit claim with my landlord or their representative.

Signature	
<b>Full name</b> (in CAPITAL LETTERS)	
Date	/ /
Address	
	Postcode

# Paying benefit to your landlord

If you are not a private tenant and you want us to pay your benefit straight to your landlord, you must sign this declaration.

#### **Your declaration**

Please pay my Housing Benefit straight to my landlord.

- I understand that I must always tell you about any change in my circumstances.
- I understand that if I do not tell you about any change of circumstances and you pay me too much benefit because of this, I may have to pay back the extra benefit.
- I understand that I may be prosecuted if I do not tell you about any change of circumstances.

Signature				
<b>Full name</b> (in CAPITAL LETTERS)				
Date	/	/		

### Your landlord's declaration

I agree to accept Housing Benefit payments for the tenant named in this form.

#### I understand that by law:

- I must tell you straight away if I find out about any change in the tenant's circumstances;
- you can stop paying benefit to me if I do not tell you about any change of circumstances;
- I can be prosecuted if I accept Housing Benefit which I know I am not entitled to; and
- if you pay me too much Housing Benefit for any tenant, I may have to repay it. You can take the amount of overpaid benefit from the benefit I get for any other tenants. This will not affect their rent.

Signature	Date	/	/
<b>Full name</b> (in CAPITAL LETTERS)			

# **Certificate of tenancy**

### tear off **3**

If your landlord has not provided you with a Tenancy Agreement, please ensure that your landlord completes this form. Do not delay the return of this claim form, this page is perforated so that it can be returned separately. Please note that this Certificate should be completed and returned as soon as possible but within one month of your claim form.

Landlord's Details full name and business address.	Postcode	Agent's Details Please tell us if you have one. Full name and business	Postcode
	Tostcode	address.	Tostcode

#### **Dear Sir or Madam**

Your tenant is submitting a claim for Housing Benefit, but they are unable to supply us with a copy of their tenancy agreement. Please help us by filling in this tenancy certificate. You must return the form as soon as possible but within one month to the address below:-

#### Benefits Section, The Copeland Centre, Catherine Street, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 7SJ

Your tenant's name,				Does the rent include money for the following?				
address and postcode				Water charges	No Ye	How much?	f	
				Heating	No Ye	How much?	f	
I	stcode		Lighting	No Ye	es How much?	f		
When did the tenancy start?		/	/	Hot water	No Ye	How much?	£	
When did they move to this address? / /			/	Fuel for cooking	No Ye	How much?	£	
How much rent is due and how often? For example, every week, every fortnight, every four				Laundry	No Ye	How much?	£	
weeks, monthly)	fortingiti, every four			Cleaning rooms or windows	No Ye	How much?	£	
Are you, or your partner relat the tenant or the tenant's part		No	Yes	Emergency alarm system	No Ye	es How much?	f	
What is the relationship?				Personal care and support	No Ye	How much?	f	
What sort of tenancy do they	have?			Meals	No Ye	How much?	£	
Please describe the rented prop (e.g. flat, house)	erty			For which meals? Please tick	Breakfast	Lunch Even	ing meal	
Are you allowed to have a ter	nant in the property?	No	Yes	Other - give details				

### Your declaration

- I understand that by law:
- I must tell you straight away in writing about any change of circumstances of the tenants shown on this form.
- If you pay Housing Benefit or Local Housing Allowance directly to me for this property I will repay any overpayments made to me.

Signature of landlord

Date

# **Certificate of earnings**

# tear off **3**

#### To the employee

When your employer has filled in this form, please return it immediately to the Council at the address shown on the front of the form.

Full name	
Address	
	Postcode
Occupation	
National Insurance Number	

# Employer's official stamp

#### To the Employer

Please help your employee by completing this form to show details of his/her last 5 weeks wages or two months salary. (Please state if calendar monthly or 4 weekly). Gross pay should include any overtime, bonus, commission, statutory sick pay, statutory maternity pay or any other payments.

When completed please return it to the employee.

The employer is requested to sign this form, authenticate it by the firm's official stamp and return it to the employee.

Period		Gross p	pay	Income Tax		Nationa contribu	Occupational Pens contribution			Other deduct.		Working Families Tax Credit		Net pay		
From	То	£	р	£	р	f	р		£	р	£	р	£	р	£	р
Tot	als of above															
Тах	year to date															
Normal hours	worked per we	ek					Date em	ploy	ment	started	/	/				
Payroll numbe	r						Signatu									
Method of pay	vment						employe		-	entative						
If the informat above is not ty employee's no please give rea	pical of your rmal earnings					Position held Business name and address										

# Questionnaire

We are committed to making sure that our services are accessible to all members of the community.

You do not have to answer the following questions about yourself, but if you do, it will help us improve access to our services.

All information is confidential and will only be used to help us improve our services.

What ethnic origin are you? Please choose one of the following. Fill in the 'other' box if appropriate.

Asian or Asian British	V	What is your sexual orientatio	n?
Asian British Pakistar	i er Asian background	Sexual orientation Bisexual Gay man	<ul><li>Gay woman/lesbian</li><li>Heterosexual/straight</li><li>Prefer not to say</li></ul>
African		What is your belief/faith/religi Belief/faith/religion Buddhist Jewish None Sikh	on?  Christian  Muslim Hindu Prefer not to say Other
Chinese or other ethnic group       Traveller         Chinese       Yemeni         Gypsies       Other         Travellers are defined as a specific ethnic group who may variety of racial backgrounds. For this reason, if you constraveller, you may also tick another category which show background.	r also belong to a ider yourself to be a s your racial	Do you consider yourself to be disabled? If 'Yes', do you need anythin particular to overcome any barriers to receiving our serv	If 'Yes' please give details below
White and black African White and black Caribbean	er mixed background er white background	Details	