

Appendix C – Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for Luton Borough Council's Crisis Support Scheme, the customer must be:

- aged 16 or over
- legally resident in the UK and have recourse to public funds.
- A resident of Luton for the past 6 months.*

If not a current resident of Luton, the customer must satisfy one or more of the following:

- Accepted as homeless and with a priority need with LBC.*
- If a member of the armed forces, leaving care or imprisonment, they must have a strong connection to the Luton area or be referred by an official source, i.e. LBC social worker / probation officer. *
- Requiring refuge or care following abuse, harm or an unsettled way of life and this can be proven, i.e. via referral from an official source such as woman's aid / social worker.*

Crisis

For the Crisis element of the scheme, customers must:

- be without sufficient resources to meet an urgent need that poses a serious risk to the health and safety of the applicant or their immediate family member(s), and;
- be in receipt of the following benefits:
 - Income Support
 - Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based)
 - Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
 - Guaranteed Pension Credit*

Local discretion may be applied if a person is assessed as vulnerable and in need and not in receipt of the above Benefits.

Community Care

For the Community Care element of the scheme, customers must need:

- help to establish themselves in the community after leaving care.
- help to remain in the community rather than enter care.
- help to ease exceptional pressures on them and their family.
- help in caring for a prisoner or young offender on release to re-adjust to life outside of prison.
- help to set up a home as part of a resettlement programme following a period without a settled way of life, i.e. homelessness, imprisonment, hospital, care.

And be in receipt of or entitled to one of the following Benefits:

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Guaranteed Pension Credit*

Local discretion may be applied if a person is assessed as vulnerable and in need and not in receipt of the above Benefits.

Please note, items marked (*) are where the criteria different to the existing DWP Social Fund scheme.