

- You may be able to get the new-style Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) from day one of your self-isolation if you are a self-employed person self-isolating and not working, or if you are an employee self-isolating and not working and you usually earn less than £118 per week.
- You could get Universal Credit if you are self-isolating if you don't qualify for Statutory Sick Pay or Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or you need additional help on top of Statutory Sick Pay or New-style ESA. You may be able to get help from day one through a Universal Credit Advance Payment.
- The latest advice on what to do, who is eligible and how to claim is available from the [Department for Work and Pensions](#), [Jobcentre Plus](#) and [Citizens Advice Bureau](#).

Government housing and financial advice

Emergency measures put in place by the Government mean that people in social or private accommodation will not be forced out of their home during this difficult time.

- The Government has announced that if you can't pay your mortgage because of coronavirus you might be able to have a 3 month mortgage payment holiday – it is best to contact your mortgage provider directly. Many providers have set up special information pages on their websites due to high call volumes.
- The government has also announced a [ban on evictions](#) - your landlord can't start court action for at least 3 months. You should talk to your landlord if you are in difficulty.
- The Government has announced an increase in the maximum amount of help through Housing Benefit or Universal Credit that will be given with rent in the private rented sector, called Local Housing Allowance. An extra £1 billion over one year across the UK is to be allocated help private renters.
- Homeowners who are struggling to pay interest fees on their Help to Buy equity loans will also be offered payment holidays. People in this situation should contact 0345 848 0236 or contact Target.HCA@targetgroup.com.
- The Government has also extended the 3 month mortgage payment holiday to landlords whose tenants are experiencing financial difficulties due to coronavirus.

Local housing and financial advice

District councils and housing associations are providing advice for individuals. Most front desks and face-to-face offices are now closed to all but the most urgent enquiries. For people in need of help or assistance it is best to access information online via [district council](#) or housing association websites or by phone. They will also be signposting people to the new Vulnerable Family and Community Hubs for further support, as this is set up in the coming days.

Kent support and assistance service

KCC's [Kent Support and Assistance Service \(KSAS\)](#) may be able to help you if you are having serious difficulties managing your income due to a crisis or if you are facing exceptional pressures because of an emergency. If your application is

