

Finance, Benefits and Information

The person with dementia, or the person who cares, may be entitled to financial support from the benefits system, including some if you are still working.

Visit the Citizens Advice website www.cas.org.uk or call their helpline on 0808 800 9060 for advice.

It is always worth seeking advice – even if you don't think you are entitled. Try the government's online benefit calculator to get an idea on what you're entitled to on www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators.

Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance is a payment available to people aged over 65 who, due to an illness or disability, would benefit from help with washing, dressing or eating, during the day or overnight.

Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

This is a benefit for people unable to work due to illness or disability who are not entitled to Statutory Sick Pay, Income Support or Jobseekers Allowance. You can also claim when Statutory Sick Pay ends.

Personal Independence Payments (PIP) for people aged under 65

People with dementia may be able to get help with some of the extra costs caused by long-term ill health.

Universal Credit

Universal Credit was introduced to replace Income Support, Income related Jobseeker's Allowance, Housing Benefit and some other benefits.

Aberdeen City Council Tax

Qualifying criteria;

Certain people who have severe mental impairments are disregarded for council tax purposes. This means that we bill your household as if you were not living there. If you live alone you will not have to pay council tax.

You will qualify for this disregard if you;

- have a permanent and severe learning disability or mental health impairment
- are in receipt of, or entitled to, one of the qualifying benefits below

You need to meet both these criteria to qualify.

Qualifying benefits:

Employment and Support Allowance

Incapacity Benefit

Attendance Allowance

Severe Disability Allowance



Disability Working Allowance
Disabled Person's Tax Credits
Disability Living Allowance (DLA) (higher or middle rate care)
Personal Independence Payment (PIP) daily living component
Disablement Pension for constant attendance at the increased rate
Unemployability Supplement/Allowance

Constant Attendance Allowance

Universal Credit

You can also qualify if you're entitled to any of these benefits but you don't receive them due to your age (for example you would qualify for DLA but you're over 65).

The exemption form can be accessed via the Aberdeen City Council website or any Aberdeen City Council office.

A carer 16 or over who looks after a person with dementia for at least 35 hours a week and doesn't study for more than 21 hours per week may be able to receive Carer's Allowance, possibly Income Support and National Insurance Credits.

Financial Inclusion Team

The Financial Inclusion Team offer specialist advice and advocacy on all aspects of Social Security benefits, Council Tax, Housing Benefits and Tax Credits, representation at appeal tribunals and support with money, budgeting and debt advice.

- Advice Line open Monday - Friday 8.30am - 5.00pm on **01224 522709**

Email: moneyadvice@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Carer's Allowance

A carer 16 or over who looks after you for at least 35 hours a week may be able to receive Carer's Allowance, possible Income Support and National Insurance Credits/ Carer's Allowance can affect the benefits you receive so it is advisable to seek advice.

For information on carer entitlements contact the Carer's Allowance Unit on 0800 731 0317 or see www.gov.uk/carers-allowance.



Carers's Credit

If the carer is looking after the person with dementia for 20 hours a week or more they can apply for Carer's Credit to protect their state pension.

For information on carer entitlements contact the Carer's Allowance Unit on 0800 731 0317 or see www.gov.uk/carers-allowance.

Power of Attorney

A continuing (financial) and/or welfare power of attorney (PoA) is a written document giving someone else authority to take actions or make decisions on your behalf. The PoA details the names of the people, known as attorneys, who you want to help you and lists the individual powers that you want them to have. The PoA will also state when your attorneys can begin acting. Please contact Office of the Public Guardian (Scotland) by Telephone: 01324 678300 or Email: opg@scotcourts.gov.uk

Free Bus Pass & Companion Card

People with disabilities can apply for a free bus pass and also a companion pass if they are aged 5 years and over and in receipt of certain benefits. This can be applied for at any Aberdeen City Council office.

Rail Travel

Carers can sometimes received travel concessions when accompanying a person with disabilities on public transport. For example, if the person has a disabled person's railcard www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk.

Blue Badge Scheme – Parking

The Blue Badge Scheme is a national scheme allowing people with severe mobility issues to park close to amenities they would otherwise have difficulty accessing. The scheme helps you travel independently, as either a driver or a passenger. To apply please visit <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking/apply-blue-badge> or visit a local library or Marischal College.

The CEA Card is a national card scheme developed for UK cinemas by the UK Cinema Association (UKCA).

The Card enables a disabled cinema guest to receive a complimentary ticket for someone to go with them when they visit a participating cinema.

The Card is also one way for cinemas to make sure they look after their disabled guests. If you require an adjustment to visit a cinema because of your disability, cinema staff should make them for you whether you have a CEA Card or not. For more information see www.ceacard.co.uk

