

If I Lived at Culverdale What Would I Have to Pay?

Culverdale is funded by a mixture of three forms of income: Supporting People funding, Housing Benefit and a personal contribution.

Current Fee Rates:

The weekly charge is made up of a combination of Housing Benefit a personal contribution from the resident (combined to pay for the provision of accommodation and related services) and Supporting People funding (to pay for the support).

The amounts are based on the accommodation provided per week:

Up to 31st March 2012	Provision of Accommodation	Supporting People Funding	TOTAL
Bedsit with shared kitchen	£112.30	£135.96	£248.26
Flat with shared kitchen	£164.30	Not Eligible	£164.30
Self-Contained Flat	£191.50	£135.96	£327.46

For most residents, the majority of the costs are paid by Supporting People and Housing Benefit. However in any flat or bedsit, there are charges for using personal electric as each bedsit or flat is individually metered for electricity. On average the weekly cost is about £3-£5 (although it is higher in winter than in summer). If you are receiving Income Support you should receive the maximum award of Housing Benefit (see below)

Supporting People

This is a government funded scheme (paid by Kent County Council) and contributes currently £135.96 per week for each eligible resident. So as to receive the funding, a person must:

- 1) Satisfy the Kent County Council Supporting People eligibility criteria.
- 2) Be in receipt of Housing Benefit (or will do so if they lived at our supported accommodation)

Housing Benefit

This is administered by our local authority Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. As a statutory scheme, the benefit you receive is set by government regulation. In general, if you live in one of our bedsits and you are in receipt of Income Support you will get the full weekly contribution charge. If you are in receipt of Incapacity Benefit of £108.05 you will receive approximately up to £104.70 per week for the bedsit*.

If you are in employment, the amount you receive will depend on the amount you receive in income, whether you are on any benefits (or are classed as having a long-term illness) and whether you have any savings.

Personal Contribution

The amount someone has to pay towards their stay at Culverdale will normally be calculated by the difference between the weekly accommodation charge and the amount payable by Housing Benefit. For most people on Income Support, there will not be a personal contribution. For people on Incapacity Benefit (and not on the Middle or Higher Rate of DLA), the contribution will be about £8.42. Additional amounts will be payable if someone has capital above £6,000 (£1 a week for every £250 or part thereof above £6,000) i.e. if someone has £6,249.00 they will pay and additional £1 per week towards their stay. If they have £7,250.00 they will pay an additional £5 per week. If someone has capital above £16,000 they will receive no Housing Benefit or Supporting People and will be liable for the full costs.

It is important that we receive accurate details of income and capital/savings as if mistakes are made, this may require people to pay back any overpaid benefit (Housing Benefit or Supporting People).

This information is correct as of 24th March 2011. Electricity prices and benefit rules are subject to change, current figures are available on request.

*This is based on our current understanding of the law and benefit rates, your individual circumstances may differ from this.