



East Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau Weekly Update

08/10/2021

Good News Story - Community Care Grants

A client was moving into Sheltered Housing and was looking for support to make a Community Care Grant (CCG) for a bed. With the help of an ERCAB adviser, a successful CCG was completed for a bed, bedding, white goods and a wardrobe. These have now been delivered to the client.

Community care grants are available if;

- your family is under exceptional pressure
- you need to move because of problem like domestic abuse
- a child's health is at risk
- you're settling into life outside care
- you need support to stay out of care
- you're caring for someone on release from prison or detention centre
- you're settling into a new home if you've been in a temporary home and you cannot meet these costs yourself.

For help with Community Care Grant applications, please contact the bureau on **0141 881 2032** or if you would like to apply yourself, please visit <https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/community-care-grants>

Energy and Utilities

With the cold weather and winter months fast approaching ERCAB are offering assistance for those in need. The increase in the energy price cap points to a cost of living shock for many consumers. If you are struggling to pay your bills, you may be eligible for certain grants and support from energy suppliers or the government.

These include;

- The Warm Home Discount
- Energy Grants
- Winter Fuel Payments
- Cold Weather Payment

For assistance with this, please contact our adviser Mark Parsons, at Mark.Parsons@eastrenfrewshireCAB.casonline.org.uk

Good News Story – HERO Project

Client visited ERCAB for an appointment with our HERO adviser, Sarah. The HERO project helps those who do not have access to a computer or who struggle to use technology, to apply for jobs under their claimant commitment for either Universal Credit or Job Seekers Allowance. Client was assisted to log into Indeed and applied for 6 warehouse jobs. Client has been unemployed and on JSA for a number of years. The following week when he came in for his appointment, he had a notification that he was through to the next stage of the recruitment process. This was the first time in years that he had been offered an interview so was overjoyed. Client is currently awaiting outcome of interview.

For assistance with job applications or help getting online, please contact our HERO Adviser, Sarah on **0141 881 2032** or email;

Sarah.McBride@eastrenfrewshireCAB.casonline.org.uk.

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods are payments that help towards the costs of being pregnant or looking after a child.

Best Start Grant is made up of 3 one-off payments;

- Pregnancy and Baby payment
- Early learning payment
- School age payment

Best Start Foods is a prepaid card that can be used in shops or online to buy healthy foods like milk or fruit.

The payments you can get now will depend on;

- How far along in your pregnancy you are
- How old your child is

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods are two separate payments. You apply for both using the same form and will get separate letters for each payment. For further information or assistance with this please, contact ERCAB on **0141 881 2032** to speak to one of our experienced advisers.

Clients can also get in contact with the bureau via:

Email-bureau@eastrenfrewshirecab.casonline.org.uk

Tel - **0141 881 2032**