

The CIPFA Benefits and Revenues Service

'Supported and Specified Accommodation - The latest arrangements for Housing Benefit claims'

January 2020

<h3>'Supported and Specified Accommodation - The latest arrangements for Housing Benefit claims'</h3> <p>January 2020</p>	
9.30 - 10.00	Coffee and Registration
10.00 - 11.15	<p>Supported Exempt Accommodation (SEA)- Background and definitions</p> <p>This session provides the background to why such accommodation is subject to special and complex rules and explains the application of those rules;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is supported accommodation? – funding and reviews of funding • Supported accommodation and the welfare reform process • The nature of supported accommodation, tenants, landlords and services • Identifying supported exempt accommodation • Definitions – types of landlord, provision of care, support and services • Costs and charges – rent, service charges and subsidy • The latest position in the funding of supported accommodation • The role of local authorities • Overlap with universal credit and data sharing with DWP
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 13.00	<p>Supported Exempt Accommodation – regulations and decision making</p> <p>This session takes a step-by-step approach to considering the various decisions required in applying the definition, identifying the relevant elements and establishing the level of eligible rent for housing benefit entitlement, before moving on to consider the administrative and financial implications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying the landlord and the services they provide • Data gathering and examination • Identifying eligible rent and eligible service charges • Reasonable rents and service, rent referrals and restrictions • Burden of evidence in the decision making process • Supported Exempt Accommodation and Universal Credit • The expanded definition of 'Specified Accommodation' • The impact on local authorities and landlords - caseload, subsidy and controlling costs • DWP oversight arrangements • DWP reporting requirements
13.00 - 13.45	Lunch

<p>13.45 – 16.00</p> <p>Includes refreshment break 15.15 – 15.30</p>	<p>Supported Exempt Accommodation (SEA) – Application of caselaw</p> <p>The identification and assessment of supported exempt accommodation claims has been subject to a large body of caselaw from the Upper Tribunals and Court of Appeal. This has both helped in clarifying the regulations and in setting out an overall framework for decision making but has also resulted in making the whole process particularly complex. This session provides summaries of a range of this caselaw and its application to the LA’s decision making process, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining Supported Exempt Accommodation • The nature and extent of support • Identifying the provider of support – landlord or third party • The level of support and minimal support requirement • Eligibility of rent and service charges • The evidence requirements and the use and interpretation of evidence • Establishing a framework for decision makers based on this caselaw
<p>16.00 – 16.30</p>	<p>Housing Benefit and Temporary accommodation</p> <p>In addition to specified accommodation, housing benefit claims will continue to need to be made by those placed in certain types of temporary accommodation under the local authorities’ statutory homeless functions. This session explains the application of housing benefit rules for such claims, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory homelessness duties to provide temporary accommodation • Identifying homeless accommodation • Defining non-HRA rent rebate claims • Determining the subsidy rules applicable to cases

Please be aware that we do not provide hardcopy course materials to delegates on the day of the event these are now distributed by email in advance of the event.

The facilitator for this event will be Sheldon Wood, CIPFA Lead Benefits Advisor – CIPFA Benefits and Revenues Service

CIPFA reserve the right to alter the timing or content of sessions where circumstances require.