



East Renfrewshire Citizens

Advice Bureau Weekly Update

01/10/2021

Support for Furlough Ending

The furlough scheme has now ended on the 30th of September. The scheme allowed businesses to continue paying their staff while operations were reduced by the Covid-19 pandemic. However, with the easing of restrictions, the scheme has now ended.

There is support available throughout East Renfrewshire, Work EastRen has a dedicated service for those who are facing redundancy and can help them find new work and training. The Economic Development Team also provides a wide range of support to local businesses.

ERCAB also offers advice and support to those in need. Please contact the bureau on **0141 881 2032** to speak to one of our experienced advisers.

Our Advice Adds up

Are you worrying about paying bills? You could be eligible to apply for benefits or grants – and our advisers can help with this.

Please call the office on **0141 881 2032** to speak to one of our experienced advisers or to arrange an appointment.

For more information about the Advice Adds Up campaign, please visit www.cas.org.uk/our-advice-adds-up

Child Disability Payment

Child Disability Payments will open for applications across Scotland from 22 November 2021. You do not need to apply if your child already gets Disability Living Allowance for children.

From mid-October children aged 16 or over who get DLA for children will have their award transferred in phases. Clients aged up to 15 years old will have their award transferred from spring 2022. Payments will continue to be made at the same rates and on the same payment cycle.

For assistance and further advice, please contact the bureau on **0141 881 2032**.

Clients can also get in contact with the bureau via:

Email-bureau@eastrenfrewshirecab.casonline.org.uk

Tel - 0141 881 2032

Good News Story – Housing

ERCAB recently assisted a young homeless woman in appealing an offer of Permanent Accommodation that was unsuitable due to her vulnerable circumstances. She had been made an offer of a property as part of the formal homeless process at East Renfrewshire Council. On the basis of her mental health conditions and her past experience of anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the offered property, ERCAB was able to successfully argue that the offer should be withdrawn. Due to the actions of ERCAB, the client has been allowed to continue to bid on other social lets as they become available.

An offered property can generally be argued as unsuitable on the grounds of:

- violence or threats of violence
- disability
- inadequate access to community support to be able to live independently
- inadequate access to schools, work, health services, local shops
- other needs of refugees
- cultural and dietary requirements that an ethnic minority client has
- being a mobile home or a caravan

Those in need of assistance with housing issues, please contact our Housing Adviser, Mark Richmond, at Mark.Richmond@EastRenfrewshireCAB.casonline.org.uk or phone **0141 881 2032**.

Child Winter Heating Assistance

Child Winter Heating Assistance is an annual payment of £202 to help families of a child or young person on certain disability benefits to heat their homes during the winter months.

If your child is under 18 and gets the highest rate care component of Disability Living Allowance for children or Child Disability Payment on at least one day between 20 September and 26 September 2021, they will qualify for Child Winter Heating Assistance.

You don't need to apply, payments are made automatically and will start from the end of November and will be made in batches over the winter months.

For more information please visit; www.mygov.scot/childwinterheatingassistance