



# East Renfrewshire Citizens

## Advice Bureau Weekly Update

08/07/2022

### Good News Story - Benefits

A client approached ERCAB for the first time in November 2021 for assistance to register an appeal following the loss of her PIP award. She had completed the review form and mandatory reconsideration herself due to difficulty accessing support during Lockdown. The appeal was lodged by the Bureau representative then a new client meeting undertaken to collect information, develop a client/advisor relationship and instruct the collation of appropriate supporting evidence for the appeal submission. During this period the client disclosed that her husband had lost his PIP award during Lockdown in 2020, having completed his PIP review form himself and not known how to challenge the decision.

The client's video appeal was successful with an award of Standard Rate Daily Living and Mobility components, generating a client financial gain of £86.30 a week (£4,487 p.a) with a backdated lump sum of £4k to the end of the previous award.

Subsequently the Adviser completed a new PIP application for the client's husband who had an industrial injuries award in place since 1979 as well as additional health conditions affecting all aspects of daily living. This resulted in an automatic award of Enhanced Rate Daily Living and Standard Rate Mobility and a client financial gain of £116.85 a week (£6076.20 p.a).

The couple were delighted and now have the financial capability to access the support required due to their individual health care issues.

**Feel free to call our office on 01418812032 or email the address below to speak to one of our experienced benefits advisers.**

### Bureau Notice –

Our Monday & Thursday Drop-In service will be **off** next week (11<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> July) due to staff holidays.

Mark and Caitlyn will be back as normal on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July between 10am – 2pm at the Inculde Me 2 Club:

**The James McGuire Building**

**124 Main Street**

**Barrhead**

**G78 1SG**

### ERC Housing – Have Your Say!

East Renfrewshire Council are looking for assistance in the development of their future Housing Strategy.

Local residents have a chance to give their views by filling out a 7 question online survey. For those who require assistance with completing this or if you have any questions, you can email the Housing Strategy Team at: [housingserviceimprovement@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:housingserviceimprovement@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)

For information on how your data will be managed, go to: [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/housing-services-privacy-notice](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/housing-services-privacy-notice)

### Free School Meals/Clothing Grants –

East Renfrewshire Council have now opened applications for Clothing Grants and Free School Meals 2022/23.

This year the amount of clothing grant you can get is £120 per primary school child and £150 per secondary school child.

You can apply online for a clothing grant and free school meals by logging in or signing up for a MyEastRen account [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/login](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/login). If you don't have a MyEastRen account you can apply via ERC Benefits Online.

You will have to provide proof of eligibility for these; a full list of acceptable evidence, along with full information on this scheme can be found by visiting the below website: [eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals#Qualifying](http://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals#Qualifying)

If you are in need of support or have any questions about the application process, you can email: [CGFSMapply@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:CGFSMapply@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)

If you get free school meals or a clothing grant, you may also be eligible for extra funded childcare for any pre school children. 2 year olds in families who qualify can get 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare.

**ERC Customer Services T: 0141 577 3001**

Clients can also get in contact with the bureau via:

**Email - [ere-bureau@eastrenfrewshirecab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:ere-bureau@eastrenfrewshirecab.casonline.org.uk)**

You can also keep up to date with recent news from ERCAB via our social media platforms. Please feel free to distribute the contact details for our advisers provided on our Facebook page.

Facebook – **East Renfrewshire CAB** & Twitter **@EastAdvice**