

Examples of those currently affected by the benefit cap

Example one:

James and Deborah have five children under the age of 18 for which they receive child benefit. They also receive income-based jobseekers allowance, child tax credit and housing benefit.

Their rent is £700 per calendar month.

They receive in benefits:

- Housing benefit: £160.38 per week
- Jobseekers allowance: £111.45 per week
- Child benefit: £73.90 per week
- Child tax credit: £247.95 per week

Giving a total of £593.68 per week.

Their housing benefit has been capped at £384.62 per week so their income is £209.06 per week over the cap limit therefore their housing benefit has reduced to £0.50 per week.

Example two:

Karen is a single parent with 2 adult children. Tom is eighteen and is no longer a student. Michael is 19 and is looking for work but not claiming any benefits.

Her rent is £82.86 per week.

She receives in benefits:

Housing benefit: £68.21 per week

Child benefit: £33.70 per week

Employment and support allowance: £100.15 per week

Child tax credit £205.22 per week

Giving her a total of £407.28

Her housing benefit has been capped at £384.62 per week so her income is £22.66 per week over the cap limit therefore her housing benefit has reduced to £45.55 per week,

Example three:

Martin lives on his own in a housing association property. He currently receives a weekly income from benefits of £310 per week and receives £70 per week in housing benefit.

His housing benefit has been capped at £257.69 per week so his income is £122.31 per week over the cap limit therefore his housing benefit has been reduced to £0.50 per week.

Example four:

Beverley is a single parent with four children. She is currently receiving income support, child benefit, child tax credit and housing benefit. She is a council tenant.

Her rent is £85.46 per week

She receives in benefits:

- Housing benefit: £85.46 per week
- Income support: £71 per week
- Child benefit: £60.50 per week
- Child tax credit: £287 per week

Giving her a total of £503.96

Her housing benefit has been capped at £384.62 per week so her income is £119.34 per week over the cap limit therefore her housing benefit has reduced to £0.50 per week.