



Welfare and benefits *advice*

Updated March 2026



Understanding the financial help that is
available for people affected by a
life-limiting illness in Lincolnshire.



About the Welfare and Benefits Team

Worrying about money when you or someone you love is living with a serious illness can feel overwhelming. You may be unsure what financial support is available or how to begin applying.

The Welfare and Benefits team at St Barnabas Hospice is here to help.

Who is St Barnabas Hospice?

We are a local, independent charity supporting more than 12,000 people across Lincolnshire each year. Alongside our compassionate palliative care services, we provide free welfare and benefits advice to people living with palliative and life-limiting conditions, as well as support for their families and carers.

Who do our Welfare and Benefits team support?

Our Welfare and Benefits team supports people across Lincolnshire living with palliative and life-limiting conditions.

This includes COPD, frailty, dementia, motor neurone disease, Parkinson's disease, heart failure and many other

non-cancer conditions, as well as many cancer diagnoses, including those where treatment is continuing but is not expected to cure the illness.

Our Welfare and Benefits team will ask for your explicit consent to access your SystmOne records or speak with a health professional involved with your care, such as your GP, Macmillan Nurse, or Consultant. We will ask for consent to gain access to medical letters and information regarding your health condition, to best support your applications. If you do not give your explicit consent this will not affect our team assisting you, but it will make it more difficult and may delay progress of your claims.

Are there special rules for people with a terminal illness?

If you are living with a terminal illness or have been told your prognosis could be less than 12 months, certain benefits claims might be fast-tracked and paid at the highest rate. In some circumstances, you may automatically qualify for a higher rate of benefit without having to do assessments or fill out claim forms. Please contact us to discuss your eligibility for this.

How can the team support you?

The Welfare and Benefits team at St Barnabas supports patients, and their spouse or carer, by **reducing financial stress** and helping you access the **support you're entitled to**.

We support people to access a wide range of benefits, including means tested and non-means tested. As well as this, we can help you apply for grants or a blue badge if applicable. Although there are some areas the team does not cover, such as debt management or legal matters, we can signpost you to the relevant people.

We can complete benefit applications on your behalf including:

- Attendance Allowance
- Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
- Universal Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Pension Credit
- Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Benefit
- Blue Badge and bus pass applications
- Grant applications and supermarket vouchers
- Practical advice and signposting for energy and water bill support
- Support for spouses and carers with their benefit applications
- Funeral Grants & Bereavement benefits

Our aim is to maximise household income and support through benefit advice and signposting to help with reduction in bills including water/energy/phone and much more.

Further information on the above can be found at
StBarnabasHospice.co.uk/welfare

St Barnabas Hospice Trust (Lincolnshire) "The Trust" is committed to the highest standard of information and every attempt has been made to present up to date and accurate information. However, given that the eligibility of entitlement to welfare benefits is prone to change, The Trust is unable to provide warranty as to the accuracy of the advice and accepts no liability for any loss, damage or inconvenience caused because of reliance on such information. The Trust always recommends that service users confirm with the relevant authority on their entitlement to any benefit before making a claim.





St Barnabas

How to apply for support



To meet the criteria for support from the Welfare and Benefits team, **you must be registered to a Lincolnshire GP and have a diagnosis of a life-limiting illness such as Dementia, Parkinson's, heart failure, motor neurone disease, COPD, Frailty and many cancer diagnoses, including those where treatment is continuing but is not expected to cure the illness.**

Anyone can make a referral to the St Barnabas Hospice Welfare and Benefit service including self-referrals.

Please call **01476 513544** between 8.30am and 4.30pm (Monday to Thursday) or 8.30am to 4pm (Friday) to make a referral or for an informal chat about what we may be able to support with.

Alternative language copies available:

If you would like this information in another language or format, please contact Marketing on **01522 559 504**

Aby otrzymać te informacje w innym języku lub formie, prosimy o kontakt z działem marketingu pod numerem **01522 559 504**

Jei norėtumėte gauti šią informaciją kita kalba ar formatu, prašome kreiptis į Rinkodaros skyrių tel **01522 559 504**

Ja vēlaties saņemt šo informāciju citā valodā vai formātā, lūdzu, sazinieties ar Mārketinga nodaļu pa tālruni **01522 559 504**

Dacă doriți să aveți această informație în altă limbă sau alt format, vă rugăm să contactați Marketing la **01522 559 504**

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