



## Budget 2020

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This briefing provides an 'at-a-glance' look at the headlines from the Chancellor of the Exchequer's 2020 Budget, presented on 11 March. The text highlighted in italics signposts to relevant Housing LIN online resources.

### General

- Coronavirus – statutory sick pay from day 1 vs 4 (all those to self-isolate without symptoms)
  - On employment allowance – able to claim from day 1 vs 8
  - Temp removing the min income floor for universal credit – all done by phone/online
  - For businesses with fewer than 250 employees statutory sick pay for 14 days refunded to company
- **£500 million hardship fund for local authorities (for welfare system)**
- £5bn emergency response fund
- **Total £30bn fiscal stimulus**
- **£175bn over five years**
- No VAT on women's sanitary products
- R&D spending to £22bn
- £1.4bn for Science Institute in Weybridge

### Housing

While there is no direct reference to specialist or supported housing, the Budget set out the following housing related allocations:

- **MHCLG Housing and Communities will receive £13.1 billion, up from £8.4 billion in 2019/20**
- **£5bn on getting gigabit broadband to rural / cut off areas** (*see the HAPPI4 report on rural housing for an ageing population which highlighted the impact of poor internet connectivity in rural communities at:*  
<https://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/type/Rural-Housing-for-an-Ageing-Population-Preserving-Independence-HAPPI-4>)

- **Affordable Homes Programme multi-year settlement of £12bn** (*we are waiting to hear if there will be a follow up announcement providing details of any further rounds of the CASSH fund or how the AHP applies to specialist and supported housing. Details of the present programme can be found at: <https://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/HousingExtraCare/FundingExtraCare/Housing/DHCapitalFundingProgramme>*)
- **£650m to help rough sleepers find permanent accommodation** – funding 6000 new places for rough sleepers. Aim to eliminate rough sleeping within 5 years. (This is going to be funded by stamp duty surcharge on non-UK residents worth 2% from April 2021 onwards) (*see more information on homelessness on our dedicated webpages at: <https://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/Homelessness>*)
- **On 12 March, comprehensive reforms to update planning system will be announced** (*we are waiting to hear if there will be any particular statement regarding to planning for an ageing population and how local authorities can best apply last year's NPPF update. More at: <https://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/Planning/LevelGuidance>*)
- New Building Safety Fund worth £1bn – deals with all unsafe building cladding for private and social residential buildings above 18m high. (*See further information on fire safety and fire protection on our dedicated asset management page at: <https://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/HousingExtraCare/ExtraCareProvision/AssetManagement>*)
- Cutting interest rates for social housing lending by 1%
- More than £1bn of discounted loans for local infrastructure and consulting on the future of the public works loan board
- Almost £1.1bn of allocations from housing infrastructure fund to build up to 70,000 homes in nine different areas including: Manchester, South Sunderland and South Lancaster
- £400 million fund allocated for Mayoral Combined Authorities to build on brownfield sites
- Housing benefit (except which is passported from JSA) is covered within the scope of the welfare cap

## Health and social care

- **The DHSC's capital budget has increased by £683 million for NHS** Trusts to invest in important projects such as estate refurbishments and building maintenance
- **£1bn of additional funding for social care – will continue every year of the current parliament**
- The government will provide funding over the next three years to speed up the discharge of individuals with learning disabilities or autism into the community from mental health inpatient care in England Increasing immigration health surcharge rate of £624 with discounted rate for children of £470
- For students and those entering the youth mobility scheme the surcharge will increase from £300 to £470

- Mental health support - £10m fund to Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust and national insurance relief for employers of veterans
- Pensions tax system – tapered annual allowance thresholds will be raised by £90,000 to prevent some doctors avoiding work because of their losses to their pension. Total of £2bn commitment
- Total funding settlement to NHS: over £6bn new funding to support NHS – 50,000 more nurses, building of 40 new hospitals, 50 million more GP surgery appointments per year in England, 6,000 more doctors in General Practice, and 6,000 in primary care
- There's £12 million of new funding for the NIHR
- £200 million to replace oldest diagnostic equipment within the NHS

## Older People

- Transfers within government are not covered by the welfare cap (such as Over 75s TV licenses)
- State pensions (basic and additional) are also not covered by the benefit cap
- Department for Work and Pensions will receive £200 million up from £100 million in 2019/20
- Lifetime allowance for pensions will increase in line with the CPI rising to £1,073,100

For further details, visit the government's website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/budget-2020-documents>

## About the Housing LIN

The Housing LIN is a sophisticated network bringing together over 25,000 housing, health and social care professionals in England, Wales and Scotland to exemplify innovative housing solutions for an ageing population.

## Published by

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