Longleigh Foundation

# Individual grants criteria

# Introduction

Longleigh Foundation Individual Grants Programme provides short-term financial support to Stonewater customers facing financial difficulties. Our grants help where no statutory or local support is available.

**Before applying with us, please check alternative support options:**

•Help for Households: Income support, energy bills, childcare, etc.

•Skills for Life: Training and employment support.

•Lightning Reach: Tailored financial help.

•Turn2us:  Poverty relief resources.

# Grant types

| Grant Type | Maximum Amount | Frequency | Examples of Support | How the Grant is Awarded |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Immediate Resettlement | £500 | Once per household | Emergency food and essential clothing for those arriving at Refuges and Youth Support accommodations. | Vouchers, and cash first approaches apply. |
| Essential Household Items and Services | £1000 | Once a year per household | Kitchen appliances, furniture, relocation costs. | Customers choose items from our approved suppliers for white goods and furniture. |
| Heating & Eating | £350 | Up to twice a year per household | Food and utility payments. | Vouchers, direct payments to utility providers, and cash first approaches apply. |

## Grant types continued

| Grant Type | Maximum Amount | Frequency | Examples of Support | How the Grant is Awarded |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Flooring | £2500 | Once per household | Flooring for safety or where Social Services cannot assist. | Customers choose flooring from our approved flooring supplier. |
| Critical Incident | £1000 | Once per household | Replacement of essential household items or clothing that have been lost, damaged or stolen and support with large home clearances. | Customers choose items from our approved suppliers for white goods and furniture, direct payments to cleaning/clearance companies. |
| Education, Training & Employment | £1000 | Once per customer | Work clothing, travel, course fees, self-employment setup. | Direct payments to education providers, vouchers, bank transfers for transport costs. |

# Pathways and evidence

Except for the Education, Training & Employment (ETE) Grant (which is open to all customers), Stonewater customers must meet one of the following pathways to be eligible for an Individual Grant.

Customers (or a family member residing with them) must meet one of the following criteria (the evidence examples below are not exhaustive):

1. **Disability or diagnosed condition:** Medical letters, prescription photos.
2. **Mental health condition or substance addiction requiring treatment:** Therapy provider letter/photo of medication.
3. **Moving from homelessness into independent living or into a support scheme:** Local authority letter.
4. **Fleeing domestic abuse:** Support agency letter.
5. **Victim of a reported crime:** Police report or victim support letter.
6. **Social services involvement:** Social worker letter.
7. **Free school meals:** School confirmation.
8. **Financial hardship:** Bank statements and wage slips and any notifications of sanctions or stoppages to benefits.

# Important information and exceptions

**Flooring Grants are only for customers that meet one of pathways 1 or 6, but with the following additions:**

- The diagnosed condition or disability must relate to how safe movement around the home is affected.
- If applying under pathway 6, please explain why Social Services will not fund the flooring.
- We will consider part funding flooring if a statutory/charitable agency or family member is contributing to the cost.
- If a customer has had an Essential Household Items and Services Grant they may be eligible for a Flooring Grant the year after this and vice versa.

Please note that we can only accept a maximum of three Flooring applications a month, so please get in touch before submitting these.

In exceptional circumstances, the Critical Incident Grant can be extended over £1000 if the customer has experienced a serious incident, such as a flood, fire, or crime in their home. Robust evidence of the situation will be required if applying for an extended amount. For any of these queries, please email grants@longleigh.org. Please note that any application to the Critical Incident Grant requesting more than £1000 without prior approval will be capped at £1000.

For customers that require cash first alternatives to our grants, these are capped at £500 and need to be discussed and agreed with our Individual Grants Manager, please email grants@longleigh.org

- We will require receipts for funds issued through vouchers or through a cash first alternative.
- Funds must be used only for approved purposes.
- Misuse may affect future applications.

## Application process

- Submit applications through Longleigh's portal.
- Immediate Resettlement grant decisions are made within 2 working days.
- Other grant decisions are made within 5 working days.
- Some cases may require further information which must be provided within 2 weeks.

If you have questions, please email: grants@longleigh.org

Please be assured that the Longleigh Foundation complies with all requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018, which covers:

- How we use any personal information received about an applicant purely for the purposes of assessing their application.
- Understanding the demographics of who is applying for our grants.
- For requesting feedback about our service and for letting customers know about any other free-to-access support that Longleigh and its partners have funded.

## What we don't fund

- Anything Stonewater or statutory agencies should cover.
- Repayments of debt, loans, rent, deposits, or overdue bills.
- Vehicles and vehicle repairs.
- Luxury/non-essential items (e.g. expensive electronics, premium brands).
- Gardening implements, garden clearances.
- Property adaptations (including painting and decorating).