57372

Does the Local Authority disregard all payments made under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (2005) as income, when assessing eligibility for:

Housing Benefit - YES

Grants issued from the Scottish Welfare Fund - YES

Does the Local Authority disregard all payments made under the War Pension scheme, as income, when assessing eligibility for:

Housing Benefit - YES

Grants issued from the Scottish Welfare Fund - YES

Does the Local Authority disregard a Service Invaliding Pension or Service Attributable Pension, paid under the Armed Forces Pension Scheme, as income, when assessing eligibility for:

Housing Benefit - YES

Grants issued from the Scottish Welfare Fund –

At present, Service Invaliding Pension or Service Attributable Pensions, paid under the Armed Forces Pension Scheme, are not specified in the Scottish Welfare Fund Statutory guidance as disregarded income. Clarity has been sought from the Scottish Government on this and we have been advised by them that this will be addressed in the next review of the Scottish Welfare Fund Statutory Guidance, which is due in April 2026.

City of Edinburgh Councils position at present is that, although Service Invaliding Pension or Service Attributable Pensions are not specifically mentioned in the guidance as income to be disregarded, in practice we would disregard this income when assessing a grant application. Within the statutory guidance Annex B disregards section, the following guidance provides allowances to disregard “equivalents” which we are currently interpreting to include the Pensions quoted.

“Adult Disability Payment (including mobility component), Armed Forces Independent Payments, Attendance Allowance or equivalents paid through industrial injuries or war pensions schemes.”