



June 2023

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about help with energy bills for families with disabled children. The Government has announced decisive and unprecedented support with energy bills.

The Government is maintaining the Energy Price Guarantee at £2,500 for the next three months until June 2023, saving the average household £160 for this period. This measure will ensure that households are supported through spring when energy costs are expected to remain high and until the effects of reduced wholesale prices are expected to feed through into lower household bills later this year. Taken together, the Government is subsidising around half of household energy bills.

Children and young adults with a long-term health condition or disability can be entitled to up to £172.75 a week, tax-free, as a contribution to the wide range of extra costs they face through either Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

These benefits are not means-tested, are paid in addition to other social security benefits, and can also provide a passport to additional support such as premiums and additional amounts in the means-tested benefits.

An informal carer, such as a parent or guardian, providing 35 hours or more care a week to a child or adult in receipt of the middle or highest rate care component of DLA or the daily living component of PIP can also be entitled to financial support through Carer's Allowance (CA).

Should a household need additional support with day-to-day costs, such as food, they may be entitled to claim a means-tested benefit such as Universal Credit (UC).

I strongly welcome that the rates for UC, CA, DLA and PIP were increased by 10.1% - in line with inflation - from April 2023.

Moreover, at the Autumn Statement 2022, the Government announced a substantial support package for the most vulnerable for 2023/24, including £300 Cost-of-Living Payments for pensioners, £150 for people on disability benefits, and £900 for people on means-tested benefits. The Government is also providing £1 billion of extra funding by extending the Household Support Fund to March 2024, bringing the total of the Fund to £2.5 billion.



Chris Heaton-Harris
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Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris'.

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY