



If I Lived in a Bridge Trust Property What Would I Have to Pay?

The Bridge Trust's accommodation and support service is funded from a number of sources including:

- accommodation charges or rent
- a personal contribution from each resident for heating, lighting etc
- Kent County Council contracts (which partially funds the support we provide to our residents)
- financial support from grant making bodies
- money raised through charitable donations.

Current Fee Rates

The weekly accommodation charge is made up of a combination of rent (which may be funded by Housing Benefit) and a personal contribution from the resident to pay for accommodation related services which are not eligible to be paid for by Housing Benefit (combined to pay for the provision of accommodation and related services).

The amounts are based on the accommodation provided per week:

From 1 st October 2018	Type of Accommodation	Weekly accommodation charge (Includes personal contribution for Amenity Charge payable by the resident)
Property 1	7 bedroom hostel	£137.28
Property 2	5 bedroom supported accommodation	£136.59
Property 3	4 bedroom supported accommodation	£132.68
Property 4	3 bedroom supported accommodation	£138.74
Property 5	3 bedroom supported accommodation	£138.02

A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

For most residents, the majority of the weekly accommodation charge is paid by Housing Benefit. However in any of our properties, there are charges for utilities, and shared facilities which are commonly referred to as the Amenity Charge. Housing Benefit will not pay the Amenity Charge and residents will have to pay it from their benefits or earnings.

The weekly amenity charge for each property is shown in the table below:

From 1st October 2018	Type of Accommodation	Weekly Amenity Charge
Property 1	7 bedroom hostel	£12.47
Property 2	5 bedroom supported accommodation	£12.76
Property 3	4 bedroom supported accommodation	£10.67
Property 4	3 bedroom supported accommodation	£14.42
Property 5	3 bedroom supported accommodation	£13.21

Housing Benefit

This is administered by our local authorities Tunbridge Wells Borough Council or Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council depending on where a property is located. As a statutory scheme, the benefit you receive is set by government regulation. In general, if you live in one of our houses and you are in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance you will get the full weekly contribution charge and will only need to pay the personal contribution/amenity charge from your own pocket.

If for any reason you cease to receive Housing Benefit you will be liable for the full weekly accommodation charge.

If you are in employment, the amount you receive will depend on the amount you receive in income, whether you are on any benefits (or are classed as having a long-term illness) and whether you have any savings.

Personal Contribution/Amenity Charge

The amount you have to pay towards your stay with the Trust will normally be calculated by the difference between the weekly accommodation charge and the amount payable by Housing Benefit. The level at which the charge is set is based on the actual costs over the last year less 5%. The 5% is paid for by The Bridge Trust itself from its own resources.

It is important that we receive accurate details of income and capital/savings as if mistakes are made, this may require you to pay back any overpaid Housing Benefit.

This information is correct as of 1st October 2018. Utility prices and benefit rules are subject to change, current figures are available on request.