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Supermarket Vouchers Worth Up to £500 Available to Struggling UK Households This August

August 3, 2025

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UK households facing financial strain are being offered supermarket vouchers worth up to £500 under the extended Household Support Fund (HSF), a government-backed initiative managed by local councils. The fund, administered by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), is aimed at providing targeted relief to vulnerable residents who are struggling with everyday essentials such as food and energy costs. While the scheme has

been extended through March 2026, the application process and amount awarded vary across different local authorities.

Under the Household Support Fund, each council has flexibility in how it allocates funding, resulting in differences in eligibility criteria, value of support, and distribution methods. In Ribble Valley the council reopens applications on 18 August, offering food vouchers of £200 for single-person households, £300 for two-adult households and up to £500 for households with children, to those with a combined income under £35,000 per year. In addition to food vouchers, Residents may qualify for £98 energy vouchers or £75 supermarket vouchers, depending on individual circumstances. Other councils are operating under their schedules. Nottingham City Council issues batches of vouchers on set dates. If residents miss the 4 August release, the next batch opens on 1 September.

Warrington Borough Council has said support payments will resume in early August, But no specific amount has been confirmed. As with other councils, Warrington sets its criteria for eligibility and distribution.

Importantly, the Household Support Fund is not restricted to welfare recipients. Guidance on GOV.UK confirms support is available to any household struggling to afford essentials and receiving assistance will not affect existing benefit entitlements. The government notes that while some local authorities work directly with residents, others may distribute funds through community organisations or charities. Some councils limit households to one application per year.

Residents are encouraged to check their local council's website for the latest application details and to ensure they meet the specific eligibility requirements in their area. With the rising cost of living continuing to affect households, the Household Support Fund remains a vital mechanism for providing immediate relief where it is most needed.