

Herefordshire Council Proof of Rent for Landlords / Agents

Use this form to tell the Council's Benefits Office about the rent you charge

Landlord's Name	Agent's Name
Landlord's Business Address	Agent's Business Address
Telephone Number	Telephone Number
Email Address	Email Address

The Council's Benefits office cannot award **Housing Benefit** until both the Landlord and Agent's full name and address have been stated on this form.

Section 1 - Rent Details

I confirm that (name)	has resided in room / flat number		
at (address)	since (date)	/ /	
The previous tenant was (name)	who vacated on (date)	/ /	
Places answer all questions below			
Please answer all questions below: 1. Amount of Rent			
My tenant is liable for a charge of £ every: Week Fortn	ight 🗌 4 Weeks 🦳 Me	onth 🗌 Quarter 🗌	
Other, please specify	<u> </u>		
2. Tenancy			
What type of tenancy does your tenant have?	How long is it for	?	
Does a formal tenancy agreement exist? No Yes If yes, the	ne period of notice is	weeks	
Are there any rent free weeks? No Yes If yes, th	ne rent free weeks are		
When is the next rent increase due?			
3. Inclusive in the Rent			
Does the rent include any services / amenities? No Go to Question 4. Yes please continue			
Are cooked or prepared meals included in the rent? No Yes			
Breakfast Part Board (2 meals a day) Full Board (3 meals a day)			
If any of the following services below are included in the rent, please confirm which services by ticking the box and how much is charged for each service.			
Council Tax £ Heating £	Hot Water	£	
Lighting £ Water rates	Gas/electricity	£	
Personal Laundry £ Cleaning (not shared areas) £	Garage	£	
Counselling and support £ Personal care £			
4. Is your tenant behind with their rental payments? No Yes He	ow many weeks?		

Housing Benefit Payments made directly to Landlords or Agents

Please complete **Section 2** if you wish to receive direct payments of Housing Benefit for your tenant from the Council, otherwise go to **Section 3**.

Payments of Housing Benefit can be made directly to a Landlord or Agent if your tenant has consented to this or they are more than 8 weeks in arrears with their rental payments. In contrast, payments of Housing Benefit calculated by using the new Local Housing Allowance rates will always be paid to the tenant directly, unless there is a valid reason not to do so.

The Local Housing Allowance scheme came into force on 7th April 2008 and currently affects tenants renting from a private landlord and making a new claim for Housing Benefit or those who move home on or after that date. Landlords can request direct payment of Housing Benefit to them if their tenant is more than 8 weeks in arrears or if there is a serious risk of them losing their home through non payment of rent. Additionally from April 2011 if direct payment of the local housing allowance type housing benefit will help a tenant retain an existing tenancy or secure a new tenancy, housing benefit can be paid direct. To receive these direct payments, landlords should complete the form 'LHA - LL request for direct payments'.

This form and the current Local Housing Allowance rates are available on the Council's website at www.herefordshire.gov.uk. Further information about Local Housing Allowance, including the monthly rates is also available from Iha-direct.voa.gov.uk

Section 2 – Direct Payments to the Landlord

Please answer all questions below:		
Has your tenant requested that their Housing Benefit be paid directly to you?		
No, Please provide this office with written details about this matter and proof of any arrears if applicable		
Yes, Please provide your bank / building society account details.		
Name of Bank / Building Society		
Address of Bank / Building Society		
Bank Account Number Building Society number		
Bank / Building Society sort code		
Name of account holder		
The Council send Housing Benefit payments to Landlords or Agents every four weeks in arrears. If you are overpaid Housing		

The Council send Housing Benefit payments to Landlords or Agents every four weeks in arrears. If you are overpaid Housing Benefit, the Council may choose to recover this overpayment from you. If this is the case, would you prefer to be sent a bill or deductions from on-going payments?

Overpaid benefit can be recovered from payments sent to you for other tenants. This is called blameless tenant recovery. When this happens we will tell you how much benefit is due for your other tenants and you must make sure that these tenants still get their normal payment credited to their rent account.

Section 3 - Declaration

I declare that I have read this form and that the information given is correct and complete. I understand that I have a duty to tell the Council's Benefits Section in writing and immediately of any changes in my tenant's circumstances that may affect the amount of Housing Benefit paid and if and when my tenant moves out of the accommodation.

If benefit is paid directly to me, I agree to receive these payments on my tenant's behalf and repay any benefit to which my tenant is not entitled.

I understand that if I give information that is incorrect or incomplete or fail to report any changes which might affect my tenant's entitlement, that I may be prosecuted.

Landlord / Agents signature

Date