

## INDEPENDENT LIVING FUND

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read the following terms and conditions carefully. By applying for the Independent Living Payment (the “**Payment**”), you are accepting the following terms and conditions, and you are entering into a legally binding agreement with Essex County Council on these terms and conditions.

If you have any queries in relation to the following terms and conditions, you should seek independent legal advice in order to ensure that you understand the terms and conditions that you are accepting.

The Independent Living Fund provided by Essex County Council is applicable to constituents of Essex County Council’s administrative area and does not include constituents in Southend and Thurrock. Accordingly, any reference to Essex is a reference only to Essex County Council’s administrative area.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

#### 1. CONSIDERATION

- 1.1. You wish to apply for the Payment and Essex County Council agrees, subject to these terms and conditions and in consideration of your obligations set out in these terms and conditions, to make the Payment.

#### 2. PAYMENT CRITERIA

- 2.1. You warrant that you meet the criteria within Clause 2.3 (the “**Criteria**”).
- 2.2. You understand that the Payment is dependent upon the Criteria within Clause 2.3 being met and that Essex County Council reserves the right to claim back, withdraw or withhold any Payment made to you if you do not meet the Criteria.
- 2.3. The Criteria is as follows:
  - 2.3.1. You must be moving directly from your Essex host or sponsor into the first independent housing after 1 of April 2025. Tenancy Agreements dated before 1 April 2025 will not be eligible.
  - 2.3.2. You must be registered on the Homes for Ukraine sponsorship scheme and hold either a valid Homes for Ukraine or Ukraine Permission Extension visa.

- 2.3.3. You must have been living with a sponsor or host under the Essex Homes for Ukraine scheme for a minimum of 3 months prior to your application.
- 2.3.4. You must have a valid, current UK bank account in your own name. Where the details provided within the application does not match the bank details, the application will not be eligible.
- 2.3.5. You must provide a signed, correctly dated and current Tenancy Agreement for the address that you are claiming for in your application. The Tenancy Agreement must be attached to the application and be for a minimum of 6 months.
- 2.3.6. Only one claim can be made per new household moving into Independent Living Accommodation.
- 2.3.7. The Application must be completed by you in full.
- 2.3.8. The Tenancy Agreement must be provided to Essex County Council.
- 2.3.9. You must have not made a successful claim in the past.
- 2.3.10. You must have not applied or received other payments from alternative similar funds.

### **3. USE OF THE PAYMENT**

- 3.1. The Payment may only be used by you for purchasing items to support the move to private rented accommodation ("**Independent Living Accommodation**").
- 3.2. The Independent Living Accommodation may be either furnished or unfurnished and can be situated outside of Essex but must be in the United Kingdom.

### **4. PAYMENT BY THE FUNDER**

- 4.1. Subject to you meeting the Criteria set out in Clause 2.3, Essex County Council will pay the Payment to you.
- 4.2. Essex County Council reserves the right to claim back, withdraw or withhold any Payment made to you, at its sole discretion, if:
  - 4.2.1. you breach these terms and conditions;
  - 4.2.2. the information provided by you in the Application is incorrect, false or misleading;

4.2.3. you fail to meet the Criteria set out in Clause 2.3;

4.2.4. you have applied or received other payments from alternative funds for the same or similar purpose;

4.2.5. you fail to leave the host or sponsor property to move into Independent Living Accommodation within 30 days of the moving date on the Tenancy Agreement;  
or

4.2.6. you use the Payment for purposes other than those set out in Clause 3.

4.3. The Payment is subject to:

4.3.1. you meeting the Criteria at Clause 2.3; and

4.3.2. you providing a valid, signed and dated legal Tenancy Agreement.

## **5. DECLARATION**

5.1. You declare that:

5.1.1. By submitting an application, you are accepting the terms and conditions and you are entering into a legally binding agreement with Essex County Council based on those terms and conditions.

5.1.2. You understand that Essex County Council may seek to claim back, withdraw or withhold any Payment made to you if the circumstances in Clause 4.2 apply.

5.1.3. The information stated within the Application is true to the best of your knowledge.

5.1.4. You meet the criteria set out at Clause 2.3.

5.1.5. You have not applied or received other payments from alternative funds for the same or similar purpose.

5.1.6. You will only use the Payment for the purposes set out in Clause 3.

5.1.7. You are a participant of either:

5.1.7.1. the Homes for Ukraine Scheme; or

5.1.7.2. the Ukraine Permission Extension Scheme