**UPDATE**

**Support with energy bills**

Since Outlook was written, the government has announced new measures to help people with increasing energy costs.

Rather than providing households with a £200 rebate on their energy bill to be paid back in instalments over five years, each household will now get a grant of £400 which does not have to be repaid.

The discount will be made automatically by your energy supplier. Over the course of six months from October, direct debit and credit customers will have the money credited to their account. Customers with pre-payment meters will have the money applied to their meter or paid via a voucher.

**Additional support for people on benefits**

For households who receive Universal Credit, tax credits, pension credit and other means-tested benefits, an additional £650 payment will be made directly into bank accounts. It comes in two instalments with the first in July and the second in the autumn.

People who receive Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment or Attendance Allowance will receive an additional £150 in September.

**Pensioner Cost of Living Payment**

Households that receive the Winter Fuel Payment - which is paid to nearly all homes with at least one person of pension age - will receive an additional £300. The Pensioner Cost of Living Payment will come as a top-up to the annual Winter Fuel Payments in November or December. For most pensioner households, this will be paid by direct debit.