



Moving to live in a Care Home - what happens to my spouse's/partner's benefits?

- If you are married or are living with someone as your partner before you move in to a care home and are receiving social security benefits such as; Pension Credit, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Universal Credit or Council Tax Reduction/Support some of your benefits will have been assessed as a joint claim with your spouse/partner.
- When you go to live in a care home permanently the Department of Work and Pensions will treat both you and your spouse/partner as single people for your future benefit claims.
- Your spouse/partner may be entitled to claim benefits such as Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Universal Credit and Council Tax Reduction/Support in their own right. If they already receive some of these benefits the amount received may change. See Pension Credit or Universal Credit and Contributory ESA Factsheet.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2020/7/27/Living-permanently-in-a-care-home-Pension-Credit.pdf>

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2020/7/27/Living-permanently-in-a-care-home-Universal-Credit-and-CESA.pdf>

- To claim Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Reduction your spouse/partner should contact the local district council. If only one adult remains living in your former home, they can get a 25% council tax discount.
- If your spouse/partner receives Carers Allowance for looking after you, this will stop when your Attendance Allowance or Disability Living Allowance care component or Personal Independence Payment daily living component stops. See Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance Factsheet.
<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2020/7/27/Living-permanently-in-a-care-home-Attendance-Allowance-Personal-Independence-Payment-and-Disability-Living-Allowance.pdf>
- Your spouse/partner may be getting an extra amount in their Income Support, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, or Pension Credit because they are entitled to Carer's Allowance. When the entitlement to Carers Allowance ends the additional amount will

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continue to be paid for a further 8 weeks only. If they receive Universal Credit, the Carer Element will end immediately.

- You can give up to half of any occupational pension to your spouse/partner who remains at home, and it will not be counted as income for you in the council's financial assessment. Please consider getting advice before making this decision as it may affect your spouse/partner's benefit entitlement as it will be regarded as income for them for any means-tested benefits. You may get advice from Age UK Information and Advice helpline: 0116 299 2278 or your local Citizens Advice. If your spouse/partner passes away or moves into a care home the 50% will revert back to you and your weekly contribution will change.