



Having an adviser took away some of the stress and some of the worry, so that I could focus on recovery
Kris, diagnosed with non-hodgkins lymphoma

Being told 'you have cancer' can affect so much more than your health – it can also affect your family, your job, even your ability to pay the bills. But you're still you. We get that. And, after over 100 years of helping people through cancer, we get what's most important: that you're treated as a person, not just a patient.

It's why we'll take the time to understand you and all that matters to you, so we can help you get the support you need to take care of your health, protect your personal relationships and deal with money and work worries.

We're here to help you find your best way through from the moment of diagnosis, so you're able to live life as fully as you can. **For information, support or just someone to talk to, call 0808 808 00 00 or visit macmillan.org.uk**



Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



Macmillan Benefits Advice in Berkshire

A benefits advice service for people affected by cancer

In partnership with



Living with cancer can be tough on your finances. You might not be able to earn in the same way. You probably spend more on everyday costs like heating and getting around. And it's hard knowing how to plan ahead. But we're here to help.

Macmillan Benefits Advice in Berkshire

Did you know there may be benefits and grants that could be available when you have a cancer diagnosis?

The system can be confusing and finding financial assistance can be difficult but Macmillan Benefits Advisers are here to help. The benefits you may be entitled to depend on many factors such as your age, your income and where you live. We can help you, your carer and your family find out what benefits might be available and how to claim them.

Who is this service for?

People who:

- have a diagnosis of cancer and/or are receiving treatment for cancer
- need advice about financial help available for cancer patients
- live in or are having treatment in Berkshire

Service user testimonials:

♥ You have been really helpful - the system is so complicated I would not know where to start. ♥

♥ Thank you, you've taken a weight off my mind. ♥

What does the Macmillan Benefits Advice service do?

We can:

- carry out a 'benefit check' to advise what benefits are available and tell you the level of award
- help with the claims process
- advise on grants available (we can sometimes make grant applications on your behalf)
- give information about other sources of financial assistance
- refer you to other sources of help, for example, if there are problems with debt, housing or employment

Some of the questions we're asked

I am struggling to pay my bills as a result of my cancer diagnosis – is there any help I can get?

I have received a very complicated form about my benefits – can you help me with it?

My employer wants to sack me because I am sick – can they do that?

The cost of travel to my treatment and car parking is very high – where do I get help?

We are behind with the mortgage – what shall we do?

What can I expect from the service?

We are a friendly, confidential, free and impartial service.

We will:

- contact you initially by your preferred method, telephone or email
- find out what help is needed
- take some details about you and your household
- give you the information and advice you need
- help with complex form filling
- where appropriate, apply for grants that give financial assistance

Where can I find further information on benefits?



Online:

Macmillan Cancer Support www.macmillan.org.uk
Citizens Advice www.citizensadvice.org.uk



In person:

At a Macmillan Information Centre located at Royal Berkshire Hospital and Wexham Park Hospital
Get in touch by calling 01753 634886.



By phone:

Macmillan information and advice - 0808 808 00 00
Your local Citizens Advice – the number will depend on your location