

This is to certify that

**WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL ANTI-POVERTY SERVICE –  
ADVICE SHOP**

is accredited to provide the following  
types of advice and information  
in the following topics until 26 September 2026

**TYPE II & III – HOUSING, WELFARE BENEFIT & MONEY DEBT**



Siobhian Brown MSP  
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**COMPETENCY ACHIEVED**

**2 Housing Specific Competences**

- 2.1 Rent Arrears – Type III
- 2.2 Mortgages & Secured Loans – Type III
- 2.3 Help with Rent and Council Tax – Type III
- 2.4 Disrepair in Rented Housing – Type II
- 2.5 Housing Options – Type II
- 2.6 Discrimination in Housing – Type II
- 2.7 Eviction – Type III
- 2.8 Anti-Social Behaviour – Type II
- 2.9 Harassment and Illegal Eviction– Type II
- 2.10 Homelessness – Type III
- 2.11 Relationship Breakdown – Type II
- 2.12 Rent: Private Sector – Type II
- 2.13 Security of Tenure – Type II
- 2.14 Statutory Tenancy Rights – Type II
- 2.15 Repair and Improvement Grants – Type II

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**COMPETENCY ACHIEVED**

**3 Money and Welfare Benefits Related Advice  
Competences – Foundation Knowledge**

- 3.1 Administrative Structure of the Benefits and Tax Credits Systems – Type III
- 3.2 National Insurance Scheme – Type II
- 3.3 Claims & Backdating – Type III
- 3.4 Decision-Making, Disputes and Appeals – Type III
- 3.5 Benefit & Tax Credit Overpayments – Type III
- 3.6 Assessment, Initial Decision-Making & Holding Activity in Debt Cases – Type II

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**COMPETENCY ACHIEVED**

**4 Money and Welfare Benefits Related Advice**  
**Competences – Specialist Areas**

- 4.1 Means-Tested Benefits – Type III
- 4.2 Universal Credit
  - 4.2 (a) Universal Credit– Type III
  - 4.2 (b) Housing Element of Universal Credit, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction – Type III
- 4.3 Tax Credits – Type III
- 4.4 Social Fund, Scottish Welfare Fund, Best Start Grant and Funeral Support Payment – Type II
- 4.5 The Impact of Work on Benefits – Type III
- 4.6 Benefits for Children – Type III
- 4.7 State Pension – Type III
- 4.8 Personal Independence Payment, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance & Scottish Disability Assistance – Type III
- 4.9 Benefits for People who have Limited Capability for Work – Type III
- 4.10 Benefits for Industrial Injury and Disease – Type III
- 4.11 Benefits for Veterans – Type II

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**COMPETENCY ACHIEVED**

**4 Money and Welfare Benefits Related Advice  
Competences – Specialist Areas Cont.**

- 4.12 Carers Allowance and Carer's Assistance – Type III
- 4.13 Jobseeker's Allowance– Type III
- 4.14 Benefits for Maternity, Paternity and Adoption –  
Type III
- 4.15 Bereavement Benefits – Type III
- 4.16 Benefits for People in Public Care – Type III
- 4.17 Benefits for Students – Type III
- 4.18 Benefits for People from Abroad and People Subject  
to Immigration Control – Type III
- 4.19 Ancillary Benefits – Type II
- 4.20 Financial Statements – Type II
- 4.21 Liability for Debts, Extortionate Credit, Unfair  
Contract Terms, Unenforceable Debts, Creditor  
Malpractice, Codes of Practice, etc – Type II
- 4.22 Identifying & Agreeing Options in Debt Cases  
– Type II
- 4.23 Negotiating & Making Offers to Creditors– Type II
- 4.24 Diligence, Diligence Stoppers and Court Proceedings  
– Type II

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**COMPETENCY ACHIEVED**

**4 Money and Welfare Benefits Related Advice**  
**Competences – Specialist Areas Cont.**

- 4.25 Bankruptcy & Trust Deeds– Type II
- 4.26 The Debt Arrangement Scheme– Type II
- 4.27 Recalls & Appeals against Court Decrees and Orders  
– Type II
- 4.28 Utility Debts – Type II
- 4.29 Local and National Tax Debts – Type II
- 4.30 Rent Arrears – Type III
- 4.31 Mortgages and Secured Loans – Type III
- 4.32 Civil and Criminal Fines and other Financial  
Penalties - Type II
- 4.33 Business Debts – Type II