

FALKLAND ISLANDS BUDGET



OUR PEOPLE IN 2019/20

One of the chief principles behind the development of the Budget this year has been create the right conditions for everyone in our community to thrive.

This infographic sets out how the Budget for 2019/20 aims to help people living and working across our islands.



Children and single parent families

We are increasing the monthly family allowance from £75 to £77 and we are also raising all welfare assistance and attendance allowances in line with the rate of inflation. From January 2020 we will also be implementing welfare changes following a recent review of the whole system.

We will also make nursery provision more accessible for lower income households by providing a subsidy to help alleviate the financial pressures associated with childcare.

We remain committed to making sure that parents can maximise their income and receive every assistance that they are entitled to.

Local workers

We are increasing the minimum wage from £6.67 to £7.03 per hour from 1 January 2020 and a 3% pay increase will be awarded to Government employees.

We are also raising the amount of the employment programme payment from £125 to £127 each week.

We want this Budget to provide more security for our local workforce and support our longer term economic plans for the future prosperity of the Falkland Islands.



Older people

We are raising the retirement pensions payment from £156 to £161 per week.

The Winter Fuel Allowance will be increased by 3% to a maximum of £521 for eligible people and the OAP Christmas Bonus will also be increased by 3% to £161 each year.

We want to deliver a fair Budget for the older members of our community, one that recognises the contributions they have made over past decades and which provides support for a good quality retirement.

Vulnerable people

We are spending £24m on health and wellbeing services this year, which includes advancing work on Tussac House and making sure all of our welfare allowances rise with the rate of inflation.

The introduction of a new Public Health Unit and further work on mental health initiatives will have a significant and positive impact on the wellbeing of the more vulnerable people in our community.

One of our main priorities is to protect the most vulnerable in our society and we believe that this Budget will help us in that effort.



Young people and students

We are investing £10m in education which includes providing new computer technology for schools and further enhancements to the new Falkland College which is due to open before the end of 2019.

We are also increasing UK student grants. Young people studying in London will now receive £9,879 each year and students outside of London will be entitled to £8,592 annually.

Our Budget will help more young people find their way into valuable training opportunities and support their progress within their chosen profession further down the line.

For more details on our 2019/20 Budget please visit: <https://www.falklands.gov.fk>

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