



# Carer Respite Scheme Information

## Our Policy

The Carers Respite Break Scheme provides short breaks and respite care breaks for primary carers of officers, ex officers, parents and the widow/ers of murdered officers who have suffered as a direct result of the terrorist campaign and who meet the NIPF eligibility criteria.

For the purposes of this scheme, a primary carer is defined as someone who has the sole responsibility for caring for an eligible client who has been injured, or requires the level of care as detailed below, and who would ordinarily be unable to take a respite break because of their responsibility for the dependant.

It will be for the carer to decide how to use the funding but the amount is intended to provide the carer with a short break and any respite service required during the break if the dependent is unable to travel with them.

## Eligibility

This scheme is designed to recognise the role of the primary carer of disabled officers, ex officers, parents and widows. Normally the primary carer will be a spouse but it is recognised that in some circumstances it may be someone else. In this latter case the carer will have to be able to demonstrate that they provide the primary care role. To be eligible the applicant must be the carer of:

- Eligible Serving Officers
- Eligible Ex-officers
- Eligible Widow/ers
- Eligible Parents

## Information Requirements

You must provide evidence that the person being cared for is in receipt of:

- Mid level (or above) Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment (PIP) or
- Lower rate or above Attendance Allowance

### OR

Where the client is not in receipt of any of the allowances detailed above, their doctor certifies that the client requires:

- a. Frequent attention from another person throughout the day in connection with bodily functions; or
- b. Continual supervision throughout the day in order to avoid substantial danger to themselves or others; or
- c. Prolonged or repeated attention at night in connection with bodily functions; or
- d. Another person to be awake at night for a prolonged period or at frequent intervals for the purpose of watching over the client in order to avoid substantial danger to themselves or others.

## Level of Support Available

Please refer to cover letter or our website for current grant limits.

## Application

When completing an application it must include:

- Name of eligible Fund client;
- Name of primary carer and address; and
- If not the client's spouse, proof that the applicant is the primary carer for the client.

## Process

The payment of this grant will only be made on provision of receipts or estimates.

- Carers can either book their own break and forward the quotation to the Fund

### OR

- Take their break and forward receipts to the Fund.
- The value of quotations/receipts will be paid up to the maximum of grant allowance
- Receipts should be in the name of the Carer or in the name of the carer and spouse where the couple operate a joint bank account.
- In addition to receipts for payment, we will accept itinerary details or online booking confirmation, provided the Carer is a named passenger and the cost of travel is clearly indicated, regardless of who booked the travel or paid for the flights.
- The Carer may wish to take the break alone or with their spouse, family or friends. Where a Fund client requires alternative care, as their carer is on a Respite Break, we will accept written confirmation from the alternative carer, of the time spent and costs associated with providing temporary care, as acceptable receipts/supporting evidence.
- All breaks must be taken and receipted prior to the second Friday in March of a given year, in order to allow sufficient time for Fund staff to process payments prior to the end of the financial year.