

The Local Housing Allowance rate for your benefit claim depends on the number of bedrooms you and the people in your household need, not necessarily the number of bedrooms you have.

You are entitled to one bedroom for each of the following: -

- A single claimant
- An adult couple
- Any two children aged under 10
- Any two children of the same sex aged under 16
- Any other person aged 16 or over
- Any other child

Most single claimants under the age of 25, without responsibility for children are only entitled to the shared accommodation rate of Local Housing Allowance, regardless of the property they rent. Additionally, most single claimants, of any age, who live in accommodation where facilities such as kitchen or bathroom are shared are normally only entitled to the shared accommodation rate.

Local Housing Allowance Rates Effective for January 2010 (1/01/2010 to 31/01/2010 incl.)	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA)			
	Greater Liverpool (including South Sefton)		Southport and surrounding areas	
	Weekly (£)	Monthly (£)	Weekly (£)	Monthly (£)
Shared Accommodation	55.00	238.33	65.00	281.67
1 bedroom self contained	98.08	425.01	92.31	400.01
2 bedrooms	114.23	495.00	126.92	549.99
3 bedrooms	121.15	524.98	150.00	650.00
4 bedrooms	161.54	700.01	178.85	775.02
5 bedrooms	219.23	950.00	207.69	899.99

Greater Liverpool BRMA includes the following districts within Sefton: -

Bootle, Netherton, Crosby, Waterloo, Seaforth, Litherland, Maghull, Lydiate, Aintree, Melling and Sefton Parish

Southport and surrounding areas BRMA includes the following districts within Sefton: -

Southport (all PR8 and PR9), Formby, Little Altcar, Hightown & Ince Blundell

The LHA rate will be the maximum amount of benefit you could receive. The actual amount of benefit you may receive will be based on your income, capital and that of others living in your household. However, in any event you will not get more than £15 per week above your actual rent.

Please note that if your claim is backdated to an earlier period your claim may be worked out using different figures. Contact us for further details.

How to get more information about Local Housing Allowance:

Phone: 0845 140 0845

E-mail: lhaenquiries@finance.sefton.gov.uk **Internet:** www.sefton.gov.uk/benefits

In writing: Sefton Council, Benefits Section, PO Box 21, Bootle, L20 3US

In person at our One Stop Shops: 324-342 Stanley Road, Bootle and Cambridge Arcade, Southport.