

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

You could be entitled to an additional bedroom certain specific circumstances if you are a foster carer or if anyone in your household receives overnight care or is unable to share a bedroom because of disability. More details can be found on the council's website, www.sefton.gov.uk/benefits

Most single claimants under the age of 35, without responsibility for children are only entitled to the shared accommodation rate of Local Housing Allowance, regardless of the property they rent. Additionally, many claimants of any age, without children, 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 is capped at the 4 bedroom rate, even if your household has or needs more than 4 bedrooms.

Local Housing Allowance Rates Effective for 2025 / 26 (1/4/2025 to 31/3/2026 incl.)	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA)			
	Greater Liverpool (including South Sefton)		Southport and surrounding areas	
	Weekly (£)	Monthly equivalent (£)	Weekly (£)	Monthly equivalent (£)
Shared Accommodation	79.25	343.42	85.00	368.33
1 bedroom self contained	115.07	498.64	109.32	473.72
2 bedrooms	136.93	593.36	138.08	598.35
3 bedrooms	149.59	648.22	178.36	772.89
4 bedrooms*	201.37	872.60	212.88	922.48

Greater Liverpool BRMA includes the following districts within Sefton: -

Bootle, Netherton, Crosby, Waterloo, Seaforth, Litherland, Maghull, Lydiate, Aintree, Melling, (part of) Ince Blundell and Sefton Parish

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

Southport (all PR8 and PR9), Formby, Little Altcar, Hightown & (part of) 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 and capital and the circumstances of others living in your household. However, in any event you will not get more than your actual rent.

How to get more information

Phone: 0345 140 0845

E-mail: contact@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.