Paying for two homes

A claimant may have liability to pay rent on two homes. This may be where:

- they leave their normal home through fear of violence
- a move to a new home is delayed for adaptations for a disabled person
- they are housed in two homes because of the number of children and qualifying young persons living with them

The housing costs in these situations can be considered for both homes, subject in some circumstances to a time limit. The costs are determined by a single calculation for both homes and the total number of bedrooms in both homes added together.

Leave their home through fear of violence

Where the household or members of the household leave their home through fear of violence but intend to return, liability for both homes can be met for up to 12 assessment periods.

The exception is where the new home is Specified Accommodation. Only the liability for the previous home can be met, subject to the time limit.

Move to a new home delayed for adaptations for disabled person

Where a move to a new is delayed, for adaptations for a disabled member of the household, liability for both homes can be met for 1 assessment period. The disabled person must be in receipt of a specified benefit as follows:

- Attendance Allowance at higher rate
- Disability Living Allowance care component at the middle or higher rate
- Personal Independence Payment daily living component (either rate)
- Armed Forces Independence Payment
- Constant Attendance Allowance paid as part of Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit or War Disablement Benefit

Housed in two homes

Where the claimant is housed in two homes, because of the number of children and qualifying young persons living with them, liability for both homes can be met indefinitely. There is no time limit.
The claimant is housed in accommodation provided by the Social Rented Sector (SRS).