



## **USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS FOR BENEFIT CLAIMS**

Direction of David Williams, Chief executive of Gosport Borough Council, under the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Electronic Communications) (Miscellaneous Benefits) Order 2006 and Paragraph 11 of Schedule 7 to the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) Regulations 2012.

Gosport Borough Council ("the Authority") in accordance with:

- paragraph 2 of Schedule 11 to the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006
- Schedule 10 to the Housing Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state pension credit) Regulations 2006
- Sections 101 – 106A of the Authority's Council Tax Support Scheme Policy 2015

Hereby makes the following directions:

1. A person who makes a claim in accordance with the 2006 and 2012 Regulations for the award of housing benefit under the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 and/or makes a claim for support under the Authority's current council tax support scheme, or gives notice of a change of circumstances, is authorised to do so by an electronic communication, provided that the person uses the method approved by the Authority in relation to such claims.
2. The methods and form set out, at the time of, and for the purposes of, the delivery of such a claim as referred to in paragraph 1, are respectively:-
  - a) The methods approved by the Authority for:-
    - i. authenticating the identity of the sender of the communication;
    - ii. submitting any claim, certificate, notice, information or evidence;
    - iii. authenticating any claim or notice delivered by means of an electronic communication; and
    - iv. electronic communication.
  - b) the form approved by the Authority in which the claim, certificate, notice, information or evidence is to be delivered.
3. This direction may be withdrawn or amended at any time by the issue of a further direction.

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David Williams  
Chief Executive

27 January 2022

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Dated