Appendix A to Policy ORG/FIN/007: Domestic Living Standards Baseline & Maximum Grant Schedule

This document sets out the operational framework for assessing household need and establishing grant award ceilings for the Nuclear Community Charity Fund (NCCF). It forms an integral operational schedule of the General Grant Making Policy.

Document Control

This section provides the formal control and versioning information for this appendix, ensuring its currency and accountability within the charity's governance framework.

Item	Detail
Document Title	Appendix A: Domestic Living Standards Baseline & Maximum Grant Schedule
Document Reference	APP/ORG/FIN/007/A
Associated Policy	General Grant Making Policy (ORG/FIN/007)
Approval Authority	Board of Trustees, Nuclear Community Charity Fund
Effective Date	5 November 2026
Review Cycle	Annual
Next Review Date	November 2027

1.0 Purpose and Overview

This section establishes the rationale for this appendix and its relationship to Policy ORG/FIN/007, which it supports by setting standardised, evidence-backed criteria and financial caps for grant awards made to individual beneficiaries.

1.1 Purpose

This Appendix forms an integral operational schedule of Policy ORG/FIN/007 (General Grant Making Policy) for the Nuclear Community Charity Fund (NCCF). Its primary objectives are threefold:

- **Minimum Domestic Situation Benchmark:** Establishing a transparent, objective baseline for grant assessors to verify whether an applicant's domestic living conditions fall below acceptable standards of health, safety, and dignity.

- **Maximum Grant Level Schedule:** Creating a clear, fair financial cap for essential household items, calculated at the 33rd percentile ('lowest-third ceiling') of current UK retail selling prices, ensuring entry-to-mid range durable items are provided without overpaying for luxury features.
- **Annual Indexing Protocol:** Providing a standardised, repeatable protocol for the Treasurer and Grant Panel to update item price caps annually without requiring fundamental revisions to the core governance policy.

The following section sets out the baseline against which an applicant's circumstances are assessed.

2.0 Section A: Minimum Benchmark of Domestic Situation

Grant assessors must evaluate applicant circumstances against the following five core living standards. A grant application under Policy ORG/FIN/007 is justified where a household lacks one or more of these baseline provisions.

A.1 Food Preparation and Cooking

- **Cooker:** Access to a safe, fully functional domestic cooker containing an operational oven, grill, and at least a 2-ring hob.
- **Preparation Surface:** A secure, hygienic, easy-to-clean, non-porous food preparation worktop (recommended minimum size: 1000mm × 600mm).
- **Washing Facilities:** A functional kitchen sink and drainer supplied with a continuous flow of hot and cold running water.
- **Electrical Safety:** Safe, undamaged electrical double-sockets positioned above work surfaces for appliance use.

A.2 Food Storage

- **Cold Storage:** A working refrigerator with a freezer compartment capable of maintaining internal temperatures safely below 8°C (ideally 1°C to 5°C).
- **Dry Storage:** At least one clean, dry-storage wall or base cupboard (approx. 0.15m³ capacity). Note: Under-sink cabinet space is excluded due to pipework and damp risks.

A.3 Bathing and Personal Hygiene

- **Sanitary Convenience:** A working, plumbed indoor toilet (WC) providing adequate privacy.
- **Bathing Unit:** A functional, fixed bath or shower unit with reliable hot and cold running water.
- **Wash Basin:** A dedicated wash hand basin situated within or immediately adjacent to the bathroom.
- **Safety and Mobility:** Bathroom environment free from severe slip/fall hazards, equipped with necessary accessibility aids (e.g., grab rails or shower seats) where mobility needs

exist.

A.4 Sleeping Accommodation

- **Room Space:** Sleeping areas meeting statutory minimum space standards (minimum 6.51m² for a single bedroom; 13m² for a bedsit/studio with cooking facilities).
- **Bedding and Furniture:** A clean, supportive bed frame and mattress raised off the floor.
- **Ventilation and Light:** An openable window providing natural light and adequate ventilation to prevent damp and respiratory issues.

A.5 General Living, Safety and Environmental Baseline

- **Thermal Comfort:** A safe, efficient heating system capable of maintaining living area temperatures between 18°C and 21°C.
- **Damp and Mould:** Living and sleeping quarters completely free from severe damp, persistent mould growth, or active water ingress.
- **Security:** Weather-proof external doors and ground-floor windows fitted with functional locks.
- **Life Safety:** Safe electrical wiring (no exposed cables or damaged sockets) plus working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms near fuel-burning appliances.

Where a household lacks one or more of these provisions, the maximum value of any grant is governed by the schedule in the following section.

3.0 Section B: Maximum Grant Level Schedule ("Lowest-Third Ceiling")

Grants awarded for essential household goods under Policy ORG/FIN/007 are capped at the 33rd percentile ('lowest-third ceiling') of market selling prices. All figures include 20% VAT. Note: Grant payments are made directly to approved commercial suppliers; no direct cash disbursements are made to beneficiaries.

Schedule B.1: White Goods and Domestic Appliances Maximum Grant Caps

Appliance Category	Sub-Category / Specification	Max Grant Cap (Lowest-Third)
Refrigeration – Fridges	Under-Counter (Freestanding)	£179
Refrigeration – Fridges	Tall Larder (Freestanding)	£329
Refrigeration – Fridges	Integrated Under-Counter	£319

Appliance Category	Sub-Category / Specification	Max Grant Cap (Lowest-Third)
Refrigeration – Fridges	Integrated Tall Larder	£499
Refrigeration – Freezers	Under-Counter (Freestanding)	£199
Refrigeration – Freezers	Tall / Upright (Freestanding)	£419
Refrigeration – Freezers	Chest Freezer	£199
Refrigeration – Freezers	Integrated Under-Counter	£349
Refrigeration – Freezers	Integrated Tall	£589
Fridge Freezers	Freestanding (50/50 or 70/30 split)	£349
Fridge Freezers	Integrated (Built-in)	£449
Fridge Freezers	American / Multi-Door (Exceptional needs)	£849
Laundry – Washing Machines	Freestanding (Standard 7–8kg)	£299
Laundry – Washing Machines	Integrated Washing Machine	£469
Laundry – Tumble Dryers	Freestanding (Vented / Condenser)	£269
Laundry – Tumble Dryers	Freestanding (Heat Pump Energy Efficient)	£519
Laundry – Tumble Dryers	Integrated Tumble Dryer	£559
Laundry – Washer Dryers	Freestanding Washer Dryer	£439
Laundry – Washer Dryers	Integrated Washer Dryer	£609
Dishwashers	Freestanding Full Size (60cm)	£279
Dishwashers	Freestanding Slimline (45cm)	£269
Dishwashers	Integrated Full Size (60cm)	£369
Dishwashers	Integrated Slimline (45cm)	£389
Cooking Appliances	Freestanding Electric Cooker (50/60cm)	£319
Cooking Appliances	Freestanding Gas Cooker	£349

Appliance Category	Sub-Category / Specification	Max Grant Cap (Lowest-Third)
	(50/60cm)	
Cooking Appliances	Freestanding Dual Fuel Cooker	£509
Cooking Appliances	Range Cooker (90–110cm) (Exceptional family)	£1,399

Appliance Ancillary Costs: Standard retailer delivery, basic installation/connection, and removal of old appliances may be funded up to an additional flat cap of £50 to £80 per appliance where required.

Schedule B.2: Flooring and Non-Disabled Living Goods Maximum Grant Caps

Flooring Category / Item	Unit / Scope	Max Grant Cap (Lowest-Third)
Carpet Material (Feltback / Budget)	Per m² (Material only)	£5.99 / m²
Carpet Material (Polypropylene Twist)	Per m² (Bleach cleanable)	£8.99 / m²
Carpet Material (Saxony / Deep Pile)	Per m² (Synthetic)	£12.99 / m²
Underlay (PU Foam / Rubber 8–10mm)	Per m²	£5.49 / m²
Fitting Labour Rate	Per m² (Subject to min call-out)	£5.25 / m²
All-in Combined Rate	Per m² (Material + Underlay + Fitting)	£23.50 / m²
Turnkey Room Package: Bedroom	Standard room (12–14 m²) all-in	£320.00
Turnkey Room Package: Living Room	Standard room (18–20 m²) all-in	£490.00
Turnkey Room Package: Stairs & Landing	Straight flight + landing all-in	£400.00

Flooring Ancillary Costs: Gripper rods and door threshold bars capped at £15–£30 per room. Fitter minimum call-out charges (£50–£80) are permitted for small areas (<6 m²). Uplift and

disposal of existing carpet capped at £2.00–£4.00/m² where applicant is physically unable to self-remove.
To keep these caps realistic, the figures in this section are updated annually under the protocol in the following section.

Schedule B.3:Other Domestic Goods

Item	Unit / Scope	Max Grant Cap (Lowest-Third)
Bed and Mattress (Double)	Per Bed	£350
Other domestic goods	Per Unit	Top of lower 3rd of market range cost

4.0 Section C: Annual Price Update and Indexing Protocol

To ensure grant caps remain realistic while maintaining strict governance control, the financial figures in Section B shall be updated annually according to the following procedure.

4.1 Review Frequency

The Treasurer and Lead Grant Assessor shall review financial market prices annually in October/November prior to the financial year end.

4.2 Market Sampling

A representative sample of at least 20 mainstream, in-stock items across major UK national retailers (e.g., Currys, Argos, Appliances Direct, Tapi, Flooring Superstore) must be sampled per sub-category. Selection must focus on entry-level and volume family brands (e.g., Beko, Indesit, Hotpoint, Hisense).

4.3 Percentile Calculation

The updated maximum grant cap for each category is set strictly at the 33rd percentile ('lowest-third ceiling') of the surveyed retail price dataset.

4.4 Governance Sign-Off

The revised Schedule B tables are presented to the Board of Trustees for minuted formal approval and re-issued as the updated annual appendix without altering the core policy text.