## Decisions of Social Security and Child Support Commissioners on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit

## **HB/CTB Decisions published on Commissioners' website in 2008**

File number	Date of decision	Council	Benefit	Legislation in issue	Keywords
CH/1973/2008	24/09/08	Leeds	НВ	Reg 9(1)(d) HB Regs 2006	Liability to assignee for whose child claimant is responsible
CH/2198/2008	17/09/08	Westminster	HB CTB	Reg 83(12) HB Regs 2006 Reg 69(14) CTB Regs 2006	Backdating – continuous good cause – whether claimant acted reasonably – CH/342/2003 not followed
CH/1076/2008	11/8/08	Sunderland	НВ	S. 91(1) of the Pension Schemes Act 1995	Whether payment of part of an annuity to separated spouse can be disregarded from income for housing benefit purposes
CH/779/2007	28/07/08	Hounslow Oxford Sheffield	НВ	Para 4(10) Schedule 3 to HB and CTB (Consequential Provisions) Regs 2006.	Whether accommodation is 'exempt accommodation' where support is provided to tenant by a third party
CH/3240/2007	21/7/08	Islington	НВ	Reg 100(2) HB Regs 2006	Overpayment – when reasonable to expect claimant to realise overpayment has been made

CH/3691/2007	15/07/08	Leicester	HB CTB	Reg 3 HB Regs 2006	Non-dependants – supersession and overpayment – issues on the appeal – burden of proof
CH/3590/2007	09/07/08	Swansea	НВ	Reg 14 HB Regs 2006	Duty to apply to rent officer – contractual rent increase shortly after rent officer determination
CH/361/2006	09/07/08	Stockport	НВ	Regs 91 and 99 HB Regs 1987	Payments made pending application to rent officer – whether housing benefit' or ' payment on account' – delay in applying to a rent officer can be official error
CH/2583/2007	01/07/08	Wandsworth	НВ	Reg 100 HB Regs 2006 S12(8)(a) Social Security Act 1998	Recovery of overpayment – lack of evidence as to date eligibility ceased
CH/4213/2007	30/06/08	Nottingham	НВ	Regs 100 and 101 HB Regs 2006	From whom overpayment recoverable
CH/2321/2007	23/06/08	Camden	НВ	Reg 10 HB Regs 2006	National of state that has ratified ECSMA department — whether "right to reside" test confined to EU Citizens.
CH/3584/2007	13/06/08	Hackney	СТВ	Reg 14 HB & CTB (D and A) Regs 2001	Whether benefit entitlement ceased where the local authority framed its information requirement by reference to a document which did not exist

CH/38/2008	12/06/08	Liverpool	HB CTB	Regs 100 and 31(2) HB Regs 2006 Regs 83 and 21(2) CTB Regs 2006	Supersession to reflect success in IB appeal did not create an overpayment caused by official error.
CH/4014/2007	23/05/08	Hillingdon	HB CTB	S130(1)(c)(i) SSCBA 1992 Sch 4, para 12, Sch 5, para 4, and Sch 6, para 5 HB Regs 2006 and counterparts in CTB Regs 2006	Effect of R(H) 9/04 and ex parte Hamilton; local authority's power to decide whether claimant and "partner" living together
CH/3935/2007	07/04/08	Bexley	HB CTB	Para 6(9) of Sch 7 to the CSPSSA 2000	Relevant date of circumstances obtaining when revision is treated as supersession.
CH/1672/2007	01/04/08	Westminster	НВ	Regs 30, 33, 35, 41 & 42 HB (SPC) Regs 2006	Whether income of a pensioner for HB purposes was the whole of a retirement pension or the net sum after paying some of that pension to the pensioner's wife under a High Court order
CH/2567/2007	27/03/08	Wandsworth	HB CTB	Regs 81, 69(1) and 2(1) HB (SPC) Regs 2006	Recovery of overpayments – notification to housing department – failure of housing department to pass on to designated office

CH/3586/2007	27/03/08	Camden	HB CTB	Reg 75 HB Regs 1987 and reg 65 CT) Regs 1992 as modified by The HB and CTB (State Pension Credit) Regs 2003	Recovery of overpayments – obligation to report changes of circumstances – meaning of 'relevant authority' in the context of official error
CH/4250/2006	20/03/08	Vale Royal	НВ	Reg 10(1)(f) and 2(4)(c) HB Regs 1987	Eligible payments – mooring charges – meaning of houseboat for HB purposes
CH/2491/2007 (24 appeals)	03/03/08	Birmingham	НВ	Reg 9(1)(a) and (I) HB Regs 2006	Church-based housing charity aimed at rehabilitation – house-rules incorporated in contract whether on commercial basis
CH/411/2007 CIS/34/2006 CIS/735/2007	25/02/08	Leicester	HB CTB	Reg 7A(5)(d) HB (General) Regs 1987 and its counterpart in the CTB (General) Regulations 1992 Reg 3(5) Decisions and Appeals Regulations 1999	Whether 'in receipt of' income support following revision of award of income support
CH/2943/2007	22/02/08	Birmingham	HB CTB	Reg 100 HB Regs 2006 Reg 83 CTB Regs 2008	Recovery of overpayment – official error – what may reasonably be expected of a claimant
CH/2555/2007	05/02/08	Woverhampton	СТВ	Reg 72 CTB Regs 2006	Whether local authority entitled to supersede award of CTB because beneficiary refuses a home visit – reasonableness of authority's actions on particular

					case to be considered by tribunal – <u>CH/4390/2003</u> considered – <u>CH/2995/2006</u> and <u>CH/3076/2006</u> applied
CH/3528/2006	05/02/08	Sandwell	НВ	Reg 12 HB Regs 2006	Whether payments called service charges are actually rent. – suitable alternative accommodation.
CH/1353/2007	23/01/08	Birmingham	НВ	Reg 9(1)(h) HB regs 2006	Former owner – whether occupation must be continuous
CH/2411/2006	17/01/08	Windsor and Maidenhead	НВ	Reg 101 HB Regs 1987	Whether landlord could take advantage of Reg 101 (1)(B) Housing Benefit (General) Regulations 1987.
CH/1849/2007	17/01/08	Westminster	НВ	Reg 7(1)(a) HB Regs 1987	Non-commercial tenancy – no rent paid for 8 years
CH/2298/2007	08/01/08	Bradford	НВ	Reg 101 HB Regs 1987	Recovery of overpayment – concurrent liability of landlord and claimant.

## HB/CTB decisions selected for reporting in 2008

Reported as	File number	Council	Benefit	Legislation in issue	Keywords
R(H) 1/08	CH/1821/2006	Manchester	HB CTB	Reg 95 HB/CTB Regs 2006	Payment to landlord – scope of appeal by landlord

					Payment to landlord – whether local authority has power to suspend payment pending decision whether to pay to landlord
R(H) 2/08	CH/3629/2006	Wirral	НВ	Regs 94 – 96 HB/CTB Regs 2006	Payment to landlord – benefit paid to tenant where duty to pay to landlord – whether possible to pay to landlord for same period – effect of offsetting provisions
R(H) 3/08	CH/3933/2006	Hackney	СТВ	S 131 SSCBA 1992	Dwelling – sole or main residence
R(H) 4/08	CH/402/2007	Cardiff	СТВ	Reg 14 HB & CTB (D and A) Regs 2001	Tribunal jurisdiction – council tax benefit – termination following suspension of award – whether decision appealable

R(H) 5/08	CH/1099/2007	Bassetlaw	СТВ	S136 SSCBA Reg 22 CTB Regs 1987	Calculation of income – self- employed earner – whether losses in claimant's business can be offset against partner's employed earnings
R(H) 6/08	CH/1246/2007	Oxford	НВ	'Old' reg 11 HB Regs 1987	Rent restrictions – exemption where housing-related support provided by person 'acting on behalf of landlord' – support provided to the tenant by a third party who acts on behalf of the landlord in some respect other than providing support
R(H) 7/08	CH/3700/2006	Wigan	HB CTB	Sch 6, Para 12.HB Regs 2006	Whether a caravan is capital and, if so, whether to be disregarded as a personal possession

**Note**: non-HB/CTB search categories that may include cases of relevance or interest include Capital; Earnings and other income; Income support and state pension credit; Recovery of overpayments; Marriage and living together; Residence and presence conditions; Revisions, supersessions and reviews. If you are interested in a specific issue that is not covered by the search categories try searching the Notes field on the **Search for Decisions** page by key word. See **Help with searching**.