

# More funds available for some TBF benefits



## A long-standing history of helping those in need

TBF has been providing help and support to those working in the public transport industry for 97 years. We currently have more than 68,000 members and their needs are very different from those back in 1923. It is a sad fact that even in the 21st century there are still cases of need, hardship, and distress amongst those working within the industry. This is best illustrated by the fact that, during the past 12 months, awards to members have been more than £2.9 million.

## Increased benefits

There is no doubt that in the current challenging times there are going to be even more instances of need, hardship, and distress amongst our members and their families. In an effort to try and ease this need, the Fund Trustees have agreed to an increase in the amount of benefit payable for our wide range of complementary and alternative therapies. Therefore, each member, their partner, and dependent children now have access to two different types of therapies in a rolling 12 month period (as before) but the amount for each is raised to £300.

## Difficult decisions

The Trustees have also had to make the very difficult decision of no longer offering massage as a benefit. Sometime ago, office-based staff discovered a series of attempted fraudulent claims for massage; these are not

always easy to detect. This has created a hugely increased workload as claims staff have to double-check the validity of every single request and this situation is no longer workable. Our principal concern is to ensure that beneficiaries who are off sick and experiencing hardship, receive their grants on time. Therefore, massage is no longer available as a benefit, although members with a massage benefit claim already open will continue to receive reimbursement until the full £250 is exhausted.

## Reallocation of budget

We will, of course, continue to offer chiropractic and osteopathy treatments and physiotherapy, so members will have other options for treatment if the need should arise.

The budget allocated for the massage benefit will now be redistributed within the sickness hardship grant budget and other therapy treatments.

## Keeping the wheels turning

TBF is here to support its members, helping them to keep the wheels of the public transport industry turning. Our staff works tirelessly to help members and their families who find themselves in situations of genuine need and help to improve members' work-life balance and reduce staff turnover for the employer.

*Thank you for your support, and remember; we are here to help you!*

**Email [help@tbf.org.uk](mailto:help@tbf.org.uk) to find out how we can help you, or visit [www.tbf.org.uk](http://www.tbf.org.uk)**

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