

Information Governance Team

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22 April 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI412597545

Thank you for your request for information relating to information about replacement for Social Fund.

You have requested the following information:

1. How much funding has the Council / Authority allocated in its budget each year since April 2013 for its replacement scheme to the Social Fund (please do not include funding for dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic);

2013: £1.2million (granted and ringfenced by the government)

2014: £1.2million (granted and ringfenced by the government)

2015: £375,000

2016: £375,000

2017: £375,000

2018: £375,000

2019: £583,000 2020: £583,000

2020: £583,000 2021: £495,422

2022: £493,756

2. Details of all local welfare provision schemes provided by the Council since April 2013 (please do not include funding for dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic); Who can apply for assistance:

The Community Support Grant replaced the Social fund and is administered by the Benefits Service. The only other local welfare scheme we are aware of is the Household Support Fund administered by our Customer Services.

3. Details of the application process for residents (if possible, please include links to application forms and information about the scheme on the Council's website); What assistance is offered;

Following careful consideration, the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following links:

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/benefits-1/community-support-grants/3

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/32558/community-support-grant-policy-2022-23

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

4. How much has been paid to local residents under the Council's / Authority's scheme(s) since April 2013 (please would you break this down into yearly amounts);

2013: £350,550

2014: £417,326

2015: £210.722.42

2016: £330,464.33

2017: £479.716.99

2018: £503,830

2019: £316,709.80

2020: £556.026

2021: £521,612.21

5. How much has been spent on other items such as furniture and white goods (please would you break this down into yearly amounts; How to challenge decisions;

Following careful consideration, the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following link:

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/benefits-1/community-support-grants/4

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

6. How many local review requests / complaints the Council has received about local

welfare provision since April 2013.

We confirm that we do not hold this information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. This information is not recorded as a separate figure within the generic review requests.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infoqov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance