

(CCC) Direct Payments on Cards by Local Authorities

- 1) How many of your authority's customers are in receipt of a direct payment for Care Act services, please?
- 2) What was the combined value of all Care Act budgets delivered through direct payments made in 2020 and 2019, please?
- 3) What is the median amount of a gross direct payment made on behalf of your organisation?
- 4) How frequently are direct payments made (i.e., weekly, fortnightly, 28 days or calendar month). Please provide a breakdown, thank you.
- 5) How many of your direct payment clients receive their payment into a prepaid card or managed account? Please provide a breakdown of the numbers, thank you.
- 6) Which prepaid card suppliers has your organisation contracted with?
- 7) What is the applicable contract length with these providers and when do these arrangements come up for renewal?
- 8) Does your organisation use prepaid cards to disburse funds to other people (i.e., asylum seekers, refugees, homeless). If so, please can you provide a breakdown of the median amount, recipient category, frequency of funds disbursed and the total value of funds made in 2020 and 2019, please?
- 9) Is your s151 Officer (CFO) aware of the recent £32 million GBP fine levied against Mastercard, allpay and PFS for allegedly operating a cartel in the public sector prepaid card space? Link to PSR article here: <https://www.psr.org.uk/news-updates/latest-news/news/the-psr-provisionally-finds-five-companies-broke-the-law-by-engaging-in-cartel-behaviour-in-the-pre-paid-cards-market/>
- 10) Has your organisation released a statement about these proceedings and if so, please can you provide it.

Response

- 1) N/A – Care is provided by the County Council
- 2) N/A – Care is provided by the County Council
- 3) N/A – Care is provided by the County Council, therefore direct payments are not made
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- 5) N/A – Care is provided by the County Council, therefore direct payments are not made

FOI Ref

Response sent

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6) N/A – Care is provided by the County Council, therefore direct payments are not made

7) N/A – Care is provided by the County Council, therefore direct payments are not made

8) No

9) Yes – we are aware

10) No

Further queries on this matter should be directed to foi@cambridge.gov.uk