

FOI Ref
11295

Response sent
29 Jun 2022

(CCC) Discretionary Housing Payments 2021/22

- Total number of DHPs granted, split by purpose of payment
- Total value of DHPs granted, split by purpose of payment
- Total number of DHPs declined, split by purpose of payment (if records are kept of this)
- Total value of DHPs declined, split by purpose of payment (if records are kept of this)
- The above information broken down by age groups detailed in Table 1 – although if processing this would be beyond the scope of the FOI, please ignore this element.

Separately, I am requesting information on your Council's use of rent guarantee schemes: these are typically used to help people facing homelessness by providing a written guarantee to the landlord to cover any unpaid rent/damage. The information I require is written below, but also in Table 2:

- Total amount of rent guarantees issued in 2021/22
 - o How many rent guarantees were issued to care leavers
 - o Age bands of those issued rent guarantees (if this data is available / accessible within the time allocated to FOI requests)

Response

Thank you for your request for information above. The appropriate department are dealing with your request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 and from their preliminary assessment they estimate that to locate, retrieve and extract the information would exceed the 'appropriate limit' set for local government at £450 which represents 18hrs of one staff member.

Section 12 of the FOI Act provides a refusal exemption on this basis. We invite you to refine your request, by specifying the information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required, as we would like to assist by attempting to provide you with some of the information required within the cost limit.

However, we have attached the 2021/2022 DHP return for DWP.

We do not hold any more specific data and to check each award would exceed the above limits. We have asked colleagues in Housing if there are any rent support schemes that may fit the description of rent support schemes. Their response is that we do not have a scheme that covers any unpaid rent or damagers. However, did 19 deposit bonds in 21/22 totaling £12,179.21. We do not keep records of the background of the customers. We also have an Access

FOI Ref

11295

Response sent

29 Jun 2022

Scheme where we pay first months' rent and deposit. We did 89 Access Scheme grants in 21/22 totaling £102,576.14. We do not keep records of people's backgrounds.

Alternatively, you may choose to pay the fee for work to be undertaken to answer your request. This charge will be calculated in accordance with section 13 of the FOI Act and the Freedom of Information Fees Regulations and is required prior to work commencing so please let us know and we will inform you of the fee.

We aim to provide a high-quality service to you and hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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