



Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
NW Leicestershire District Council
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Date: 28 October 2020

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 1268

I write further to your email dated 24 August 2020.

Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), explained on our [freedom of information](#) page.

Your request:

What was the Local Welfare Assistance Scheme budget in your local authority for each of the financial years – 2018/19; 2019/20; and 2020/21?

The Council received funding from Leicestershire County Council from their Local Welfare Provision allocation. This was £5,000 in 2017/18 (this was all unspent at 31/03/18 to be carried forward to spend in future years) and £1,200 received in 2019/20.

In addition to this the Council has a 'furniture project' budget of:

2018/19 £3,030

2019/20 £3,030

2020/21 £3,110

How much was spent during 2018/19; 2019/20; and 2020/21? For 2020/21, how much has been spent so far?

From the County Council allocation the following spend has occurred:

2018/19 £96.65

2019/20 £1,943.15

2020/21 £253.00

This means that £2,707.20 from the 2017/18 funding received and the whole of the £1,200 2019/20 funding are still available to spend.

The following spend from the Council's 'furniture project' budget has occurred:

2018/19 £4,730

2019/20 £3,703

2020/21 £126

What type of support is available, for example cash loans, grants, and/or furniture and white goods?
Furniture and White Goods, and emergency cash payment for gas / electric to buy fuel cards (max £10 per individual claim).

Do you provide furniture/white goods through your Local Welfare Assistance Scheme?

Yes, see response above.

If you do provide support for furniture/white goods through your Local Welfare Assistance Scheme, do you supply the item or a grant/cash to purchase items?

The items are purchased through a local community project. The Council is invoiced for the items and they are delivered directly to the customer.

If you provide furniture/white goods through your Local Welfare Assistance scheme, what proportion of your budget is spent on these items?

90%

Have you received any additional Government funding specifically for a Local Welfare Assistance Scheme in 2020? If yes, how much?

Nothing received in 2020/21.

What were the number of completed applications to the scheme in 2018/19; 2019/20; and 2020/21?

North West Leicestershire District Council do not specifically have an open scheme that people can apply to. It is more a case of supporting those people who we identify as having a need when they approach for housing advice.

How many were successful in 2018/19; 2019/20; and 2020/21?

18/19 = 185 successful (not including non-monetary support e.g. food vouchers)

19/20 = 279 successful (not including non-monetary support e.g. food vouchers)

20/21 = 7 successful (not including non-monetary support e.g. food vouchers). We had to suspend some of our support during lockdown as our providers were not operating and we have also had to redirect people elsewhere for some things as we can not deliver them ourselves whilst remote working.

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GOING FORWARD

If you are dissatisfied with the information supplied please feel free to contact me on the number above for any queries in relation to this response. Please note that in responding to further enquiries I can only comment on the information contained within this correspondence and cannot provide any further information that may pertain to an additional FOIA request.

Please remember to quote the Authority's four digit reference number given at the top of this email in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the above informal review, you have the right to ask for an internal review. A request for a review whether formal or informal should be submitted within two calendar months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to DPO@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk or the address above.

Further details on our appeals and complaints procedure can be found on our website [here](#).

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at accessicoinformation@ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mackenzie Keatley
Information Governance Officer