

Request

- 1) How much money was your council granted by the Department for Work and Pensions during tranche 2 of the Household Support fund e.g money granted for 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022?
- 2) How much money did your council spend of the granted money from tranche 2 e.g money spent 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022?
- 3) Where any restrictions placed on how you could spend this money? If so, what were they?

Response

- 1) £2,818,234,30
- 2) Fully spent
- 3) Yes – Guidance from DWP is as follows:

Unless the Secretary of State decides otherwise, the Authority must determine individual eligibility in its area for assistance under the Scheme and the means by which assistance will be provided (whether directly by the Authority or through a third party) and target its support as follows:

a) the Authority must ensure that:

i) at least 33.33% of the grant is allocated to support households that include:

- a person who will be under the age of 19 as at 30th September 2022, or
- a person aged 19 or over in respect of whom a child-related benefit is paid or free school meals are provided during the Grant Period;

ii) at least 33.33% of the grant is allocated to support households that include a person who has reached state pension age by 30th September 2022;

iii) up to 33.33% of the grant is used to assist other households;

b) the Authority is to ensure that the grant is primarily allocated to support with the costs of food, energy (for heating, lighting and cooking), water (for household purposes, including sewerage) and other essential living needs in accordance with the Scheme guidance;

c) in exceptional circumstances of genuine emergency, the Authority may allocate grant funds to support with housing costs as set out in the Scheme guidance.

If the Authority or any third party incurs any of the following costs, they must be excluded from eligible expenditure:

- a) contributions in kind,
- b) payments for activities of a political or exclusively religious nature,
- c) depreciation, amortisation or impairment of fixed assets,

- d) input VAT reclaimable from HM Revenue & Customs,
- e) interest payments or service charge payments for finance leases,
- f) gifts, other than promotional items with a value of no more than £10 in a year to any one person,
- g) entertaining (entertaining for this purpose means anything that would be a taxable benefit to the person being entertained, according to current UK tax regulations), or
- h) statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties,

and, for the avoidance of doubt, the exclusions at a) and f) above do not apply to the provision of direct assistance, including food, to the intended eligible beneficiaries of the Scheme.

The Authority must not deliberately incur liabilities for eligible expenditure before there is an operational need for it to do so.