

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act.

- 1) What was the maximum amount the council budget allowed to be paid out in the form of a 'leaving care grant' (sometimes also called a setting up home allowance) in the 2022-2023 financial year?

£34,000 – Budget 2022/2023
£78,003 – Expenditure 2022/2023
- 2) How many young people left the care of your council on or after their 16th birthday in the 2022-2023 financial year?

76
- 3) How many of these young people received a leaving care grant?

55 young people received funding to support their first home grant exceeding £500.

Please note, Wigan supported care leavers in 2022/23 with a commitment to provide their first "Home Start" grant to the total value of £2,400.

Due to timing of individuals leaving care, some costs span different financial years.

The financial details provided for this response covers the support offered between the period 01.04.2022 and 31.03.2023 inclusive.
- 4) What was the average amount (both mean and median) paid out to care leavers in a leaving care grant in the 2022-2023 financial year?

In respect of the 55 individuals who were supported under this arrangement, the Average paid out in the financial year 2022/23 (mean) amounted to £1,296.24 & average (median) amounted to £1,207.65
- 5) What was the lowest amount paid out to a care leaver in a leaving care grant in the 2022-2022 financial year?

£506.94 was the lowest within the £500 and above range. The remaining costs to support our commitment of £2,400 will have been incurred in either previous financial year or the current financial year (variations relate to the timing of tenancies agreements etc.)
- 6) What was the highest amount paid out to a care leaver in a 'leaving care grant' in the 2022-2023 financial year?

The highest amount paid out to a single care leaver in 2022/23 was £2,274.55