

Request

1. Does your council hold records showing of the cash value of direct payment funds returned to your council? Are these recorded in the Local Authority accounts, or elsewhere?

2. Please can you provide figures for the cash value of direct payments repaid to the council for each of the last 5 years.

3. Please can you provide figures for the cash amount of the budget allocated by your council for direct payments for each of the last 5 years.

4. What happened to the returned funds? i.e., which budget were they paid into to allow them to be rationalised in the council's accounts? *I'm not looking for great detail here, just a question of were they added to general council funds, children's services, disabled children's services, etc.*

5. Were the returned funds ringfenced, and if so what were the returned funds ringfenced to be used for?

Response

Yes, records show returned funds and are included in the Local Authority Accounts for each financial year.

Financial Year	Cash Value Repaid
2019/2020	£106,005
2020/2021	£196,222
2021/2022	£250,722
2022/2023	£151,648
2023/2024	£380,037

Financial Year	Budget Allocated
2019/2020	£1,249,726
2020/2021	£1,409,585
2021/2022	£1,467,692
2022/2023	£1,601,722
2023/2024	£1,643,842

All returned funds are allocated to the Childrens Direct Payment Cost Centre (budget) and provides consistency in demonstrating full net costs in this Service area. This cost centre sits within Childrens Services Directorate.

Returned funds are not ringfenced.