

Information Governance

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Date: 07 May 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI325734132

Thank you for your request for information relating to Covid grant overpayments.

Your request and our responses are shown below:

Thanks very much for your response to my request (FOI316179236) regarding Covid grants. Would you please be so kind to tell me the months over which the overpayments were overpaid, and in relation to what government grant each of them were over paid.

1. Would you please be so kind to tell me the months over which the overpayments were overpaid, and in relation to what government grant each of them were over paid.

Please see the attachment for details.

2. For clarity, would you mind succinctly explaining what ineligible claim and payment error mean.

Ineligible: where it was subsequently identified that the business was not eligible to receive the grant but it was determined that they had not been dishonest / fraudulently applied for the grant.

Error: where the applicant was paid the incorrect amount.

3. Could you also please tell me as much detail as you can about the organised/systematic

fraud (i.e. what type of fraud was it- such as impersonation, property fraud etc, what made it organised, did it span areas outside of your council's constituency)?

Please refer to the attachment for details.

4. Can you please also go into a similar level of detail for the 23 overpayments relating to local business fraud.

Please refer to the attachment for details.

5. Are police involved in tracking down the fraudsters?

As per government guidance, cases of organised and systematic fraud have been referred to NATIS / NAFN.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the <u>Council's web site</u> and in particular its FOI/EIR <u>Disclosure log</u>, <u>Council's Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Open Data</u> and <u>Facts about Coventry</u>.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance

FOI325734132 Fraudulent claims

No	Grant scheme	Month paid	Type of fraud
1	Local restrictions	January 2021	Impersonation fraud
	support grant (LRSG)		
2	Local Authority	June 2020	Property fraud
	Discretionary grant		
	fund (LADGF)	4 11 2020	A
3	Retail, Hospitality and	April 2020	Not trading
	Leisure Grant Fund		
4	(RHLGF)	April 2020	Not in accuration
5	RHLGF	April 2020 May 2020	Not in occupation Organised /
3	KHLGF	IVIAY 2020	systematic –
			impersonation fraud.
			Classed as organised /
			systematic as cross
			boundary.
6	RHLGF	April 2020	Not trading
7	RHLGF	April 2020	Organised /
,	Ni ESI	7,0111 2020	systematic –
			impersonation fraud.
			Organised /
			Systematic as involved
			more than 1 business
8	RHLGF	May 2020	Organised /
		,	systematic –
			impersonation fraud.
			Organised /
			Systematic as involved
			more than 1 business
9	RHLGF	April 2020	Not trading
10	RHLGF	April 2020	Not trading
11	Small Business Grant	June 2020	Impersonation fraud
	Fund (SBGF)		
12	SBGF	June 2020	Not trading
13	SBGF	April 2020	Not in occupation
14	SBGF	April 2020	Not in occupation
15	SBGF	May 2020	Not in occupation
16	SBGF	May 2020	Not trading
17	SBGF	April 2020	Property fraud
18	SBGF	April 2020	Not trading
19	SBGF	May 2020	Not in occupation
20	SBGF	May 2020	Not trading
21	SBGF	April 2020	Not in occupation
22	SBGF	May 2020	Organised /
			systematic –
			impersonation fraud.
			Organised /
			Systematic as involved
			more than 1 business

23	SBGF	April 2020	Organised /
			<mark>systematic –</mark>
			impersonation fraud.
			Organised /
			Systematic as involved
			more than 1 business
24	SBGF	May 2020	Not trading
25	SBGF	April 2020	Not trading
26	SBGF	April 2020	Not in occupation
27	SBGF	April 2020	Not in occupation
28	SBGF	June 2020	Not trading

Ineligible claims

No	Grant Scheme	Month paid
1	LRSG	February 2021
2	LRSG	November 2020
3	LRSG	January 2021
4	LRSG	December 2020
5	LRSG	January 2021
6	LRSG	January 2021
7	LRSG	January 2021
8	LRSG	December 2020
9	LRSG	February 2021
10	LRSG	December 2020
11	LRSG	December 2020
12	LRSG	November 2020
13	LRSG	December 2020
14	SBGF	April 2020
15	SBGF	May 2020
16	SBGF	May 2020
17	SBGF	June 2020
18	SBGF	June 2020
19	SBGF	April 2020
20	SBGF	August 2020
21	SBGF	April 2020
22	SBGF	May 2020
23	RHLGF	April 2020
24	RHLGF	April 2020
25	RHLGF	April 2020
26	RHLGF	May 2020
27	RHLGF	June 2020
28	RHLGF	May 2020
29	RHLGF	April 2020
30	RHLGF	April 2020
31	RHLGF	April 2020
32	RHLGF	April 2020
33	RHLGF	April 2020
34	RHLGF	April 2020

35	RHLGF	April 2020
36	RHLGF	April 2020
37	RHLGF	April 2020
38	RHLGF	April 2020
39	LADGF	August 2020
40	LADGF	August 2020
41	LADGF	August 2020
42	LADGF	June 2020
43	LADGF	August 2020

Payment error

No	Grant Scheme	Month paid
1	LRSG	November 2020
2	LRSG	November 2020
3	LRSG	November 2020
4	LRSG	November 2020
5	LRSG	November 2020
6	LRSG	November 2020
7	LRSG	November 2020
8	LRSG	November 2020
9	LRSG	November 2020
10	LRSG	November 2020
11	LRSG	November 2020
12	LRSG	November 2020
13	LRSG	November 2020
14	LRSG	November 2020
15	LRSG	November 2020
16	LRSG	November 2020
17	LRSG	November 2020
18	LRSG	November 2020
19	LRSG	November 2020
20	LRSG	November 2020
21	LRSG	November 2020
22	LRSG	November 2020
23	LRSG	November 2020
24	LRSG	November 2020
25	LRSG	November 2020
26	LRSG	November 2020
27	LRSG	November 2020