



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI433271462

Thank you for your request for information relating to £150 Energy Rebate & Household Support Fund.

You have requested the following information:

1. How many households in your Local Authority area are eligible for the £150 council tax rebate announced by DLUHC in March 2022?

For the avoidance of doubt, I am referring to households eligible for the scheme as per the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-council-tax-rebate-2022-23-billing-authority-guidance/support-for-energy-bills-the-council-tax-rebate-2022-23-billing-authority-guidance>

139,793 as of 1 April 2022.

a) Of these households, how many pay council tax by Direct Debit, and how many by other means? (e.g., cash / phone / cheque payments)

Direct Debit: 89,750 as of 1 April 2022.

Other method: 50,043 as of 1 April 2022.

b) For households eligible for the £150 council tax rebate that pay for council tax by Direct

Debit, how many have now received their £150 payment by July 1st, 2022, and how was their payment processed? (i.e., transfer via BACS, postal cheque etc.)

We are unable to specify this figure.

80,734 households who pay by direct debit pay received their £150 payment via BACS.
23,514 households who were issued a Post Office voucher had cashed the voucher.

This equates to 104,248 households receiving their £150 payment.

c) For households eligible for the £150 council tax rebate that do not pay for council tax by Direct Debit, how many have received their £150 payment by July 1st, 2022, and how was their payment processed? (i.e., transfer via BACS, postal cheque etc.)

Please refer to Question 1b.

2. Is your council one of the 152 authorities responsible for distributing the Household Support Fund? And if so, could you please tell me how many applications has your Local Authority received for Household Support Fund Payments between October 6th, 2021, to July 1st, 2022? Please can you provide this information on a month-by-month basis?

For the avoidance of doubt, I am referring to households eligible for the scheme as per the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/household-support-fund-guidance-for-local-councils/household-support-fund-final-guidance-for-county-councils-and-unitary-authorities-in-england>

a) Of the applications made for the Household Support Fund payments between October 6th 2021 to July 1st 2022, what percentage of applications have been successful?

56% of applications received awards during this period, as we signposted many people to different schemes and agencies based on their specific requirements.

b) For households that have received the Household Support Fund payments between October 6th, 2021, to July 1st, 2022, how was their payment processed? (i.e., transfer via BACS, postal cheque etc.)

Paypoint voucher.

Supermarket voucher.

Supplied with white goods.

Supplied with food parcel.

c) A breakdown of number of awards made by type of household (i.e., with children, pensioners)

HSF award period 6 October 21 to 31 March 22, 106,585 awards were made and 814,589 were to households with children.

HSF award period 1 April 22 to 30 June 22, 25,053 awards were made and 20,308 were to

households with children.

d) A breakdown of number of awards made by purpose (i.e., energy and water, food, housing costs, other essentials)

HSF award period 6 October 21 to 31 March 22:

Food – 79,009
Energy & Water – 22,283
Essentials linked to Energy & Water – 4,901
Wider Essentials – 392

HSF award period 1 April 22 to 30 June 22:

Food – 24,429
Energy & Water – 349
Essentials linked to Energy & Water – 101
Wider Essentials – 177

e) What steps has your Local Authority undertaken to ensure that Household Support Fund payments are being used for their defined purposes

Our awarding models for Household Support Fund help us safeguard as much as possible that awards are used for the defined purposes. Food awards are supported as a free food parcel by our local Food Network, or a supermarket voucher limited to food and sanitary product spend, and fuel awards are paid via PayPoint vouchers where possible. Larger items such as white goods, are pre-ordered in partnership with AO.com, where installation of new item and collection of broken appliances is included.

For other items, our experienced Community Support team are supported by experienced Customer Services Managers who coordinate due diligence checks and alternative award methods to ensure we can support our residents needs within the grant requirements.

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For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

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

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane,

Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance