



**Information Governance Team**

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25 August 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI441243774**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Discretionary Housing Payments.

You have requested the following information:

**1. How many applications for DHPs did the council receive in 2020/21?**

2,663.

**2. How many of the applications in question 1 did the council approve? (i.e. the council decided to award DHP in response to the application, either in full or in part)**

839

**3. How many of the applications in question 2 were awarded in full? (i.e. the council decided to award the full amount applied for in the DHP application)**

We confirm that we do not hold this information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. We record "awards" or "refusals", we do not differentiate in our recording between full or partial awards.

**4. How many of the applications in question 1 did the council refuse? (i.e. the council decided not to award any DHP in response to the application)**

2,278.

**5. How many applications for DHPs did the council receive in 2021/22?**

2,627.

**6. How many of the applications in question 5 did the council approve? (i.e. the council decided to award DHP in response to the application, either in full or in part)**

881.

**7. How many of the applications in question 6 were awarded in full? (i.e. the council decided to award the full amount applied for in the DHP application)**

We confirm that we do not hold this information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. We do not differentiate in our recording between full or partial awards.

**8. How many of the applications in question 5 did the council refuse? (i.e. the council decided not to award any DHP in response to the application)**

2,040.

**9. Please provide any data the council holds on reasons for DHPs being refused in 2020/21 and 2021/22**

**2020**

Excess income:140  
No contact: 337  
Not entitled to Housing Benefit: 4  
Other refusal reason: 397  
Sufficient capital: 33  
Criteria not met: 234  
Bonds: 6  
No Housing Benefit/Council Tax claim: 96  
No Links to Coventry: 94  
Not taken Sufficient steps: 58  
Property not affordable: 227  
Rent arrears Refusal: 239  
Rent paid in full: 128  
Nonpriority spending: 1  
No threat to Tenancy: 175  
Duplicate form: 10  
Application withdrawn: 18  
No qualifying benefit: 81

**2021**

Excess income: 125  
No contact: 402

Not entitled to Housing Benefit: 0  
Other refusal reason: 107  
Sufficient capital: 21  
Criteria not met: 162  
Bonds: 11  
No Housing Benefit/Council Tax claim: 98  
No Links to Coventry: 63  
Not taken sufficient steps: 68  
Property not affordable: 234  
Rent arrears Refusal: 98  
Rent paid in full: 105  
Nonpriority spending: 3  
No threat to Tenancy: 198  
Duplicate form: 38  
Application withdrawn: 66  
Tenancy signed before decision: 23  
Did not move into property: 23  
Ineligible costs: 31  
Applied for incorrect element of DHP: 18  
Alternative support available/accessed: 15  
Offer withdrawn: 4  
No qualifying benefit: 127

**10. What was the average amount of DHP awarded in response to successful DHP applications in 2020/21? This is the amount awarded for each application, not to each household (i.e. three successive awards to one household count as three separate awards). Successful applications in this question are those that were awarded any money**

**11. What was the average amount of DHP awarded in response to successful DHP applications in 2021/22? (See notes accompanying question 10)**

For Questions 10 and 11, we confirm that we do not hold this information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. This information is not recorded.

**Please note that these questions treat each application for DHPs separately – regardless of whether more than one such application was made by the same household in a financial year, or whether they were made to renew previous awards.**

**For example, if in 2020/21 one household applied for DHP and was awarded it in full for a fixed period, and then applied again and was awarded it in full again, then applied a third time and was awarded 50 percent of the requested amount, and then applied a fourth time and was refused with no money awarded – then in relation to this household:**

- the question 1 figure is four (four separate applications)
- the question 2 figure is three (three applications were awarded in full or in part)
- the question 3 figure is two (two applications were awarded in full)
- the question 4 figure is one (one application refused with no award)

**I wish to emphasise that if a council did not award any money to a DHP applicant but signposted the applicant elsewhere or provided support outside DHPs, this counts as a**

**'refusal' for the purposes of questions 4 and 8.**

**If the figures for questions 3, 7, 10 and/or 11 cannot be provided within the section 12 cost limit, please mark these questions as 'information not held'. This is not asking the council to provide all the information it can up to the section 12 cost limit (if I was asking that, I would ask it). Please email me the information, using the attached Excel spreadsheet for questions 1-8 and 10-11.**

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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](mailto: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](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

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

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**