



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI619781544

Thank you for your request for information relating to Grants to the VCSE Sector.

You have requested the following information:

I'm writing to you under the 2000 Freedom of Information Act to request information about your grant-making to the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector. In 2023, DSC produced unique research on local authority grant-making, which provides analysis and recommendations for public sector commissioners. The information requested below will inform our second edition, which will provide an up-to-date picture of grant-making practice and enable local authorities to benchmark their funding practice. We hope this context helps.

Please provide the following information:

- 1. Listing separately for each year, in the years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 what was the**
 - I. Total annual financial value of grants given to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector by your authority?**
 - II. Total number of grants given to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector by your authority?**

- 2. Listing separately for each year, in the years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 of the above grants (question 1) what total number were awarded through**
 - I. Competitive/open application processes?**
 - II. Grants in aid?**
 - III. Unknown?**

3. Listing separately for each year, in the years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 what was/were the:

I. Total number of formal challenges you received around your grant processes and decisions on the basis of alleged non-compliance with: State Aid, Subsidy Control, or Public Procurement regulations?

II. And of these what number of these challenged resulted in legal proceedings?

We hold the information which you have asked for, but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

We do not code financial payments under the heading of 'voluntary sector grants' and therefore to identify the transactions related to your request, an officer would need to interrogate each relevant transaction to a voluntary sector organisation to identify if it was a grant payment. We estimate that this will exceed 18 hours manual work hence your request has therefore been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

However, in order to fulfil our obligations under Section 16 of the FOI Act to advise and assist you, we advise that all payments over £500 are published by the Council - please use the following link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/budgets-spending/transparency>

You can extract payments to Voluntary Associations (using Account Code R5005) however this may not identify if it was a grant payment.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR 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.

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