



Assurance Group
London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
1 November 2019
Our ref: 5730844

Thank you for your request received on 23 October 2019, for the following information:

1a) Do you currently run a Local Welfare Assistance Scheme (LWAS)? This is the scheme ' or schemes ' introduced following the abolition of Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans for living expenses from 1 April 2013*

Yes No

1b) If yes, what is the name or names of your scheme?

1c) If yes, what is your LWAS budget for the financial year 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020:

1d) What is your prospective LWAS budget for the financial year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021:

*** If you use the funding that would previously have been spent on LWAS in a different way, e.g. you use it to fund advice services etc. please use this space to summarise this approach and answer other questions as appropriate.**

2. What was your annual expenditure on Local Welfare Assistance in:

1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019

3. How many local welfare assistance applications have you received, and by how many individual applicants (regardless of outcome):

**Number of applications Number of separate individuals
1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019**

4. How many awards and/or loans were granted in:

**Number of awards Number of separate individuals applying
1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019**

5a. Have you reviewed your Local Welfare Assistance Policy in the last 6 years?

Yes No

5b. If no, do you have plans to do so?

Yes No

5c. If yes, please provide the date of when the review will take place:

5d. If no, please provide the reason why there are no plans to review:

We have processed this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Response

The council holds the information requested and it is attached/ the answers to your questions are below.

1a) Do you currently run a Local Welfare Assistance Scheme (LWAS)? This is the scheme ' or schemes ' introduced following the abolition of Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans for living expenses from 1 April 2013*

Yes

1b) If yes, what is the name or names of your scheme?

The Crisis Fund

1c) If yes, what is your LWAS budget for the financial year 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020:

£250,000

1d) What is your prospective LWAS budget for the financial year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021:

Not Held

*** If you use the funding that would previously have been spent on LWAS in a different way, e.g. you use it to fund advice services etc. please use this space to summarise this approach and answer other questions as appropriate.**

2. What was your annual expenditure on Local Welfare Assistance in:

1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019

£268,997.21

3. How many local welfare assistance applications have you received, and by how many individual applicants (regardless of outcome):

**Number of applications Number of separate individuals
1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019**

- Number of applications 1807
- Number of separate applicants 1254

4. How many awards and/or loans were granted in:

**Number of awards Number of separate individuals applying
1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019**

Number of awards 1457

Number of separate applicants 1114

5a. Have you reviewed your Local Welfare Assistance Policy in the last 6 years?

No

5b. If no, do you have plans to do so?

No

5c. If yes, please provide the date of when the review will take place:

5d. If no, please provide the reason why there are no plans to review:

With the limited funding available to us the scheme in its current guise works.

Further information

If you are interested in the data that the council holds you may wish to visit Open Barnet, the council's data portal. This brings together all our published datasets and other information of interest on one searchable database for anyone, anywhere to access. <http://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

Advice and Assistance : Direct Marketing

If you are a company that intends to use the names and contact details of council officers (or other officers) provided in this response for direct marketing, you need to be registered with the Information Commissioner to process personal data for this purpose. You must also check that the individual (whom you wish to contact for direct marketing purposes) is not registered with one of the Preference Services to prevent Direct Marketing. If they are you must adhere to this preference.

You must also ensure you comply with the Privacy Electronic and Communications Regulations (PECR). For more information follow this Link www.ico.org.uk

For the avoidance of doubt the provision of council (and other) officer names and contact details under FOI does not give consent to receive direct marketing via any media and expressly does not constitute a 'soft opt-in' under PECR.

Your rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review within the next 40 working days by writing to the Information Management Team at: foi@barnet.gov.uk. Or by post to Information Management Team (FOI) London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

If, having exhausted our review procedure, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you will have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone: 0303 123 1113; website www.ico.org.uk). There is no charge for making an appeal.