



My Ref: FOI/4345
Your Ref:
Date: 02/05/2025
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings are as follows: -

Your questions and my findings are as follows:-

- 1. Please provide us with a copy of the management information return you are required to provide to the DWP for both tranche five and six of the Household Support Fund.**

Please see attached – this is the only data we are required to collect as an authority on HSF

- 2. Please provide a breakdown of how tranche five and six was spent:**
 - (a) Targeted Grants (by targeted grants we mean any direct grants/proactive support given to households that did not need to be applied)**
 - (b) Free School Meal Holiday Vouchers**
 - (c) Direct applications to the scheme (this means the amount that was open to application, but not through your local welfare assistance scheme)**
 - (d) Local Welfare Assistance Scheme**
 - (e) Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations**
 - (f) Advice Services**
 - (g) Other (please clarify)**

Please see attached – this is the only data we are required to collect as an authority on HSF

- 3. (a) If you accepted applications to this fund how many did you receive?**
(b) How many applications were successful?

Please see attached – this is the only data we are required to collect as an authority on HSF

- 4. Excluding funding given to local welfare schemes or third-party organisations;**
 - (a) Do you use HSF to provide furniture and appliances (such as cookers, fridges, washing machines etc.)?**
 - (b) If yes, how much do you spend on furniture and appliance provision in each tranche?**

Please see attached – this is the only data we are required to collect as an authority on HSF

5. For tranches five and six, how much did you spend on:

(a) Vouchers

(b) Cash awards

(c) Third party organisations

(d) In kind support

(e) Other If you provide in kind support, what percentage would you estimate is spent on furniture and white goods? Of the funds given to third party organisations, how much was given to organisations who provide furniture, white goods and furnishings?

Please see attached – this is the only data we are required to collect as an authority on HSF

6. How much do you plan to spend on free school meal vouchers in the holidays in 2025/26? If HSF is not renewed/replaced, will you continue with the vouchers in future years? And if so, how will you be funding it?

We are unable to provide a figure for 25/26 as this is dependant on the number of applications throughout the year. We have budgeted £626,880 from the 25/26 HSF to cover this amount. No decision has been made of the continuation of the scheme once HSF has ended and therefore no figure can be given.

7. What additional benefits could your local authority experience if crisis funding was permanent and allocated in tranches of numerous years? Would it aid planning, delivery and efficiency?

This question does not fall under an FOI request

8. If the HSF was to be replaced with a long-term funding pot, what form would you want it to take and how can central government ensure it has the greatest impact on those in poverty?

If you have any further comments about local welfare support or the Household Support Fund, please share it here. I would like my comments to remain anonymous: Yes/No

This question does not fall under an FOI request

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Information Requests Via email.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

Information Requests Team
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S70 9GG
email: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: -

Customer Services Team
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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