

## FOI 182/2015

### REQUEST AND RESPONSE

I am requesting the information below about Discretionary Housing Payments at your council.

Questions:

1. What was the council's total DHP budget (spent and unspent) for the 2014-2015 financial year?

a) £349477.00.

b) £13723.08

2. How many individual DHP awards were made by the council in the 2014-2015 allocations year?

891

3. What percentage of the council's total DHP funding for 2014-2015 was paid out in awards?

96%

4. Local reasons why DHPs were allocated

Unsure of the question for 'Local reasons'

a) Please send a list of all DHP awards made in the 2014-2015 year.

Where possible, this list should include the:

i) reason for each award (for example, the award was made to cover bedroom tax, or to meet rent costs in excess of the benefit cap).

ii) duration of each award (for example, one month, six months, one year)

iii) size of the award - how much money was awarded in each case

See spreadsheet attached

5. Averages/median payouts and length of payout

a) What was the most common length of a DHP award in the 2014-2015 year? (For example, one month, six months, a year.)

3 months

b) What was the most common reason for the longest awards in 2014-2015?

SSSC for people living in properties adapted for their needs.

c) What was the most common/median amount for a DHP award in 2014-2015?

6) How long on average does it take the council to process a DHP application?

45 minutes

7. Other questions

a) Is DLA/PIP counted as income in calculations to DHP entitlement? If Yes, which DLA/PIP components are included?

We look at each application on an individual basis. The total household income forms part of the assessment.

b) How can people apply for a DHP from the council? Please send any application forms and links to form pages, and any online application instructions.

Complete an application form. Available via visit to our reception area or from call to our contact centre. Currently have no forms online but should be available 2015/16. We have designated officers assisting applicants Monday, Tuesdays and Wednesdays every week.

c) Do people have to complete an application form to apply? Please note if there are any other means by which people can apply (for example, can they just send an email detailing their requirements).

A completed application form is required.

d) Please include contact email address(s) and telephone numbers for people wanting to make DHP applications and to find out more information.

01255 686811