

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 000824  
Date            26 January 2017

### ***Local Welfare Fund or the Discretionary Social Fund***

**Request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, can you please provide me with the following information:

I am specifically looking for detail regarding spend and contract renewal in regards to the now devolved Community Care Grants awarded to welfare recipients for their furniture and white goods needs. This service is now regularly referred to as the Local Welfare Fund or the Discretionary Social Fund.

I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following detail to assist me with my endeavours:

1. What was the Local Authorities' annual spend on domestic furniture for the last financial year?

In response to your request, we have established that the Council does not hold the above information as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on. Thus we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("The Act"), that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request..."

This is because we do not hold information categorised in this way.

2. What was the Local Authorities' annual spend on White goods for the last financial year?

As above.

3. What is the predicted Local Authority spending for this financial year?

Information not held. The Council cannot predict spending for this financial year.

4. What is the predicted Local Authority spending for the next financial year?

Information not held. The Council cannot predict spending for next financial year.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

5. Which organisation currently holds the contract to deliver:
  1. Residential/domestic furniture? **No Contract**
  2. White goods? **No Contract**
6. When is the contract for this provision due for renewal? **N/A**
7. What is the standard cost to the Local Authority for the specific furniture and white goods items? **N/A**
8. Who is the main contact for procurements of this nature? **N/A**
  1. Please provide email and telephone number.

In response to your request we can confirm that City of Wolverhampton Council do not have a Council-run or contracted-out 'Local Welfare Fund' which provide grant payments. A partnership with the Wolverhampton Credit Union gives access to Crisis Loans and Welfare Assistance Loans.

By way of providing advice and assistance as under Section 16 of the FOIA, I am pleased to inform you that more information is available via following link:

<http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=12109&p=0>