

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 001252  
Date            21 June 2017

### ***Discretionary Housing Payments 2016-17***

#### **Request:**

I am seeking information about Discretionary Housing Payments awards and DHP spending at your council in the April 1 2016 to March 31 2017 financial year.

Could you send me answers to these questions:

1. What was the council's total DHP allocation (spent and unspent) for the 2016-2017 financial year?  
Paid £794,276  
Unpaid £12,254
2. What percentage of the council's total DHP funding for 2016-2017 was paid out in awards?  
98.48%
3. Did your council exceed its government Discretionary Housing Payment allocation in the 2016-2017 financial year?  
No
4. If Yes, did your council top up its government allocation? What was the topup amount?  
N/A
5. Did your council have any unspent DHP budget at the end of the 2016-2017 year? If Yes, how much?  
£12,254
6. How many applications for Discretionary Housing Payments were made to your council by eligible applicants in the 2016-2017 financial year?  
(By "eligible applicants," I mean DHP applicants who were in receipt of housing benefit or Universal Credit housing costs at the time of their applications and who applied for a Discretionary Housing Payment for help with housing payment problems that DHPs can be used to cover (for example, the bedroom tax, rent shortfall due to LHA caps, etc).  
3,520

7. How many of those applications were rejected/unsuccessful?  
295
8. What were the three main reasons that eligible DHP applicants had their DHP applications turned down in the 2016-2017 financial year?  
Already in receipt of maximum Housing Benefit  
Income exceeds expenditure  
No Housing Benefit in payment for the period of request
9. Does your council restrict the number of DHP awards an applicant can receive?  
No