

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 002170  
Date            10 April 2018

### ***Local Welfare Assistance Scheme***

#### **Request:**

Please could you send me the following information, under the Freedom of Information Act:

1. Does your council run a Local Welfare Assistance Scheme, designed to provide emergency and/or community assistance? [Yes](#)

2. What is its budget for 2018/19? [No additional budget for 2018/19 as previous investment in a Local Welfare Assistance loans scheme in partnership with Wolverhampton City Credit Union provided for an ongoing sustainable scheme](#)

3. What has been its budget for each of the previous 5 financial years (2017/18, 2016/17, 2015/16, 2014/15, 2013/14)?  
[Expenditure budgets](#)

[2013-14 – £1,611,000](#)

[2014-15 – £857,790](#)

[2015-16 – £200,000](#)

[2016-17 - 0](#)

[2017-18 - 0](#)

4. How much has been spent in each of those financial years? (2013/14 to 2017/18 inclusive)

[2013-2014 - £1,356,619 \(Council run Local Discretionary Grant Scheme\)](#)

[2014-2015 - £689,494 \(Council run Local Discretionary Grant Scheme to 30 June 2014; Loan scheme in partnership with Wolverhampton City Credit Union from 1 July 2014\)](#)

[2015-2016 - £200,000 investment in LWA Loan scheme in partnership with Wolverhampton City Credit Union](#)

[2016-2017 - sustainable loan scheme in partnership with Wolverhampton City Credit Union](#)

[2017-2018 - sustainable loan scheme in partnership with Wolverhampton City Credit Union](#)

5. If there have been any underspends in recent years in your LWAS, where has that money been redirected to (eg has it gone to other budget areas, increasing the LWAS budget for the subsequent year, or elsewhere?) [N/A](#)
6. How many applications have been made in each of those financial years? (2013/14 to 2017/18 inclusive)  
[2013 to 30/6/2014 – 3,000 individual applications of which 1,362 were successful plus five projects; 1/7/2014 to 31/3/2018 - 4,488 loans issued](#)
7. Of those, how many applications have been successful and how many have been rejected in each year? If a breakdown exists by emergency / community element, please provide this. If a breakdown exists for the reasons for rejection, please provide this. [See above](#)
8. Is your LWAS fully funded by the council? If there are external funders, who are they and how much do they contribute? [See \(2\) and \(3\) above](#)
9. Please send me a copy of your criteria - eg which individuals are or are not eligible, what constitutes an emergency, any limits on how many times someone can apply to apply is for assessing applications. Please also provide any guidelines for council officers when determining applications.  
[http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/article/5512/Local-Welfare-Assistance Determined by Wolverhampton City Credit Union subject to Credit Union lending criteria](http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/article/5512/Local-Welfare-Assistance-Determined-by-Wolverhampton-City-Credit-Union-subject-to-Credit-Union-lending-criteria)
10. How and where has your LWAS scheme been publicised over the past five years?  
[Leaflets in Job Centres and voluntary sector organisations; Council website](#)
11. If you already have existing reports or data showing a breakdown of applications by the nature of the need, or by location, please send me a copy.  
[Not available](#)