

From: [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI-17-0965 - Discretionary Housing Payments
Date: 17 July 2017 15:34:51
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request of 4 July 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

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

Could you send me answers to these questions:

- 1) What was the council's total DHP budget (spent and unspent) for the 2016-2017 financial year?**

Total Spend - £1,241,709.00.
Gov't Contribution - £340,537.00,
Scottish Gov't Contribution - £740,329.00
Local Authority Contribution £160,843

- 2) What percentage of the council's total DHP funding for 2016-2017 was paid out in awards?**

100%

- 3) Did your council exceed its government Discretionary Housing Payment allocation in the 2016-2017 financial year?**

Yes.

- 4) If yes, did your council top up its government allocation?**

Yes.

- 5) Did your council have any unspent DHP budget at the end of the 2016-2017 year?**

No.

- 6) If yes, how much?**

N/A

- 7) How many applications for Discretionary Housing Payments were made to your council by eligible applicants in the 2016-2017 financial year?**

3021.

8) How many of those applications were rejected/unsuccessful?

605.

9) What were the three main reasons that eligible DHP applicants had their DHP applications turned down in the 2016-2017 financial year?

- 1. In receipt of full Housing Benefit.**
- 2. No award of Housing Benefit.**
- 3. No Funding Available.**

These were the only reasons an application was denied.

(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, rent in advance and tenancy deposit assistance, etc).

10) Does your council apply conditions to DHP awards (for example, must people agree to participate in debt advice/debt management sessions or training or other help in order to secure a DHP?)

No.

11) If yes, what conditions apply?

N/A.

12) Does your council restrict the number of DHP awards an applicant can receive?

No.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Information Compliance Team

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

ACC handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of

Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

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