

30 June 2023

Dear

ATISN 18571 Discretionary Assistance Fund

Thank you for your request which I received on 7 June 2023. You asked for:

Information on the 2022-23 spending for the Discretionary Assistance Fund (DAF) in terms of total spend, spend by local authority area, spend by Emergency Assistance Payment and Individual Assistance Payment. You also asked for the total number of applications and how many were successful. You asked about the method of fulfilment i.e. cash, voucher, provision of an item. You also asked about our policy for replacing broken items and the 2023/24 DAF budget.

You posed questions specifically relating to social housing tenants.

Our response

The information you requested is enclosed.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

1. What was the total spend on the DAF in 2022/23?

The total DAF spend in 2022/23 was £39,712,385.21

2. If possible, please provide a breakdown of the spend amongst the 22 principal areas/local authorities in Wales.

Local Authority	Total Awarded '22 - March '23)	(April
Blaenau Gwent	£1,385,356.13	
Bridgend	£1,891,357.55	
Caerphilly	£2,448,105.63	
Cardiff	£5,808,074.18	
Carmarthenshire	£2,019,277.51	
Ceredigion	£357,002.65	
Conwy	£1,076,131.39	
Denbighshire	£1,250,347.64	
Flintshire	£1,480,077.63	
Gwynedd	£1,167,036.57	
Isle of Anglesey	£634,642.32	
Merthyr Tydfil	£1,343,667.49	
Monmouthshire	£567,229.89	
Neath Port Talbot	£2,106,215.11	
Newport	£3,113,966.05	
Pembrokeshire	£809,736.56	
Powys	£574,419.62	
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	£3,650,013.71	
Swansea	£2,877,974.42	
Torfaen	£1,476,304.64	
Vale of Glamorgan	£1,419,954.60	
Wrexham	£2,255,493.92	
Total	£39,712,385.21	

3. How many applications did you receive to this scheme in 2022/23?

The fund received 561,528 applications within this period.

(a) For Emergency Assistance Payments

544,062

(b) For Individual Assistance Payments

17,466

4. How many applications were successful in 2022/23?

375,902 applications were successful.

(a) For Emergency Assistance Payments

360,921

(b) For Individual Assistance Payments

14,981

5. How much was spent on the provision of furniture and/or white goods in 2022/23? This includes both cash, vouchers and the provision of the item itself.

Value of Individual Assistance Payment (IAP) for furniture and/or white goods 2022-23 - £14,170,197.71

What percentage was:

Cash - 43.72%

Vouchers - 20.60%

Provision of the item itself - 35.68%

6. Please show which furniture/appliance types you provide and whether these are new or preloved:

	New	Preloved/second hand
Cooker	Y	N
Fridge	Y	N
Freezer	Y	N
Fridge Freezer	Y	N
Washing Machine	Y	N
Sofa	Y	N
Bed	Y	N
Wardrobe	N	N
Chest of drawers	N	N
Table and chairs	N	N
Flooring – carpets or lino	Y (Cash award)	N
Window coverings – curtains or blinds	Y (Curtains)	N

7. Do you replace broken appliances or furniture items?

No

8. Can social housing tenants apply to the fund for support provided they meet the general application criteria?

Yes, however applications for items must be supported by an approved partner to DAF.

9. What proportion of any furniture, appliances and furnishing spend went to social housing tenants?

This data is not collected.

10. What is your budget for 2023/24?

The grant budget for 2023/24 is £34.5m.