

29 June 2023

Dear

ATISN 18575 – DB – UK Household Support Fund

Thank you for your request, which I received on 7th June 2023. You asked for details regarding the allocation of funding by the Welsh Government in respect of consequential funding resulting from the operation of the Barnett Formula, specifically UK Government spending in the financial year 2022-23 relating to the UK Household Support Fund.

I can confirm that the Welsh Government received a total of £49.530m in respect of the UK Household Support Fund in 2022-23:

- £24.765m in the Spring Statement from consequentials relating to the Department of Work and Pensions; and
- £24.765m non-Barnett funding in Supplementary Estimates.

Changes to funding in England on programmes that are devolved in Wales result in changes to our block grant via the Barnett formula. However, those changes do not determine what the block grant should be spent on. Welsh Ministers, with the Senedd's approval, decide how to allocate the Welsh Government's budget, which includes funding from Barnett consequentials, in line with its priorities as part of the budget process.

In line with the principles of the devolution settlement, consequentials are added to overall reserves and these reserves are then allocated in line with devolved priorities, rather than ring-fenced for use on the policy area or initiative from which they were generated. As a result, it is not possible to specify precisely where this consequential funding was spent in the 2022-23 financial year because it cannot be disaggregated from other funding contained within reserves.

All funding allocations made by Welsh Ministers in the financial year 2022-23 can be seen in the relevant budgetary documentation. Links to those documents are attached below.

Draft Budget 2022-23

<https://www.gov.wales/draft-budget-2022-2023>

Final Budget 2022-23

<https://www.gov.wales/final-budget-2022-2023>

1st Supplementary Budget 2022-23

<https://www.gov.wales/1st-supplementary-budget-2022-2023>

2nd Supplementary Budget 2022-23

<https://www.gov.wales/2nd-supplementary-budget-2022-2023>

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.

Your sincerely,