

Local Government Single Emergency Hardship Funding

Terms for recovering costs incurred as a result of Covid19

Criteria

To give special financial assistance to local authorities that would otherwise be faced with an undue financial burden of providing relief to prevent suffering or severe inconvenience, in their area or among its inhabitants.

The scheme will provide that expenditure qualifying for grant is **additional** expenditure incurred by a local authority:

- as a result, or in connection with, the taking of action to provide relief or prevent suffering to its inhabitants;
- for its relevant service areas;
- as a result of COVID 19;

The following are expenditure that may qualify under a scheme, **provided the criteria above is met.**

General

- managing staff absences and illness,
 - recruiting additional staff/ agency workers
 - overtime costs
- costs of implementing social distancing
- costs of enhanced infection control

Free School Meals - £40.4m April to end of August

- Additional costs incurred for
 - the provision of food vouchers; or
 - the delivery of food items; or
 - a transfer of funds to the bank accounts

To the families of children eligible for free school meals who are unable to attend school premises.



Housing/Homelessness - £10m no end date

- Provision of facilities to isolate homeless individuals (B&B, hotels, tents etc.)
- Provision of sanitation equipment
- Additional support staff

Adult Social Services – (£45m April – June)

£22.7m July to end of September

- Additional costs incurred for
 - continued support for in-house and commissioned adult social care provision across domiciliary care, residential care and supported living; and
 - funding for local authorities to support providers to address market stability pressures, e.g. voids and other exceptional / unpredictable / emergency expenses across the adult social care sector

Process

- Details of expenditure by service area to be provided by **15th of each calendar** month (via the spreadsheet provided)
- Based on an **accruals** basis – **where exact costs are known** – no general provisions / estimates. For example, invoices received or paid between the end of the month and the claim date or known stage payments against a contract.
- Complete with S151 Officer certification (or deputy)
- Emailed to Amanda.whittle@gov.wales and cc'd to LGFPMail@gov.wales

Statutory Authority

Financial assistance will be made subject to these terms and under the authority of the Minister for Housing and Local Government, one of the Welsh Ministers, acting pursuant to section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 by virtue of section 162 and paragraph 30 of schedule 11 to the Government of Wales Act 2006.

The Welsh Government reserves the right at any time to recover the grant, in whole or in part, to the extent that it is not used for the terms set out herein.

Audit Requirements

- (a) You must:
- (i) maintain clear accounting records identifying all income and expenditure in relation to the terms;
 - (ii) without charge, permit any officer or officers of the Welsh Government, or the Wales Audit Office at any reasonable time and on reasonable notice being given to you to visit your premises and/or to inspect any of your activities and/or to examine and take copies of your books of account and such other documents or records as in such officer's reasonable view may relate in any way to your use of the Funding. This undertaking is without prejudice and subject to any other statutory rights and powers exercisable by the Welsh Government or the Wales Audit Office or any of its officers, servants or agents;
 - (iii) retain this letter and all original documents relating to the Funding until we inform you in writing that it is safe to destroy them;
- (b) Under paragraph 17 of Schedule 8 to the Government of Wales Act 2006 the Auditor General for Wales has extensive rights of access to documents and information relating to monies provided by the Welsh Government. He and his officials have the power to require relevant persons who control or hold documents to give any assistance, information and explanation that they may require; and to require those persons to attend before them for such a purpose. The Auditor General and his staff may exercise this right at all reasonable times.