



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Daniel Ayres

17 August 2026

Dear Daniel Ayres

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-216559-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about grants and external funding received on Fri, 17 Jul 2026.

Request

I request the following information relating to Grants and External Funding for the period 1 April 2023 to the date this request is processed -

1. A list of all grants, discretionary payments, or financial awards made by the council to external organisations, charities, community groups, social enterprises, or private organisations, including:

- o Recipient name
- o Amount awarded
- o Date awarded
- o Funding programme or budget
- o Purpose of the grant

2. For each grant over £10,000, please provide:

- o The application or business case (with personal data redacted where necessary)

- o The assessment or scoring documentation
- o The decision record approving the award
- o Any funding agreement entered into

3. A list of all grant funding recovered or subject to repayment during the same period, including the reason

4. Details of any grant monitoring reports, performance reviews, or compliance reports produced for grants exceeding £25,000

5. Copies of the council's current policies governing:

- o Grant awards
- o Grant monitoring
- o Recovery of grant funding

6. Details of any internal or external audit reports since 1 April 2023 relating to grant funding, subsidy control, financial governance, or grant assurance

If any of the requested information is already published, please provide the relevant web links.

If any part of this request exceeds the cost limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please advise how the request may be refined so that the remaining information can still be provided.

I would prefer the information in electronic format (Excel, CSV or PDF where appropriate).

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1. A list of all grants, discretionary payments, or financial awards made by the council to external organisations, charities, community groups, social enterprises, or private organisations, including:

- o Recipient name**
- o Amount awarded**
- o Date awarded**

- o Funding programme or budget - cost centre provided
- o Purpose of the grant - cost centre provided

Provided in excel document attached for 25/26 only

2. For each grant over £10,000, please provide:

- o The application or business case (with personal data redacted where necessary)
- o The assessment or scoring documentation
- o The decision record approving the award
- o Any funding agreement entered into

We consider this information to be exempt under Section 12 FOIA. Further details of this exemption are provided at the end of this response.

3. A list of all grant funding recovered or subject to repayment during the same period, including the reason.

We consider this information to be exempt under Section 12 FOIA. Further details of this exemption are provided at the end of this response.

4. Details of any grant monitoring reports, performance reviews, or compliance reports produced for grants exceeding £25,000

We consider this information to be exempt under Section 12 FOIA. Further details of this exemption are provided at the end of this response.

5. Copies of the council's current policies governing:

- o Grant awards
- o Grant monitoring
- o Recovery of grant funding

Policy available at

<https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-04/Grant%20policy.pdf>

6. Details of any internal or external audit reports since 1 April 2023 relating to grant funding, subsidy control, financial governance, or grant assurance

Audit Committee Reports available at:

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=272>

Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

We consider that Section 12 of the FOIA applies to questions 2, 3 and 4 of your request because the information cannot be provided within the 'appropriate limit' of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours).

The appropriate limit includes the time it will take the council to discover if it holds the information requested, to locate it, extract it and collate it as well as putting it into any particular format requested.

In order to gather the information that you have requested, we would need to manually search thousands of records, spanning various departments and officers, which would be impracticable. The information is not held in a reportable format. While we cannot provide an accurate estimate of the time that this will take, we are confident that this would involve a substantial amount of officer time, and certainly in excess of 18 hours. Complying with the request would divert officers from their normal day to day duties to the detriment of other service users.

Public authorities are obligated to offer advice and assistance which would enable applicants to resubmit a request which could be responded to within the appropriate limit - so far as it would be reasonable to do so. In this case, this does not appear to be possible due to the specific nature of the request and the way in which the information is held. However, we have responded to the parts of your request that we are able to within the appropriate limit.

Disclaimer

Most of the information that we provide in response to requests submitted under the

Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 will be subject to copyright protection. In most cases the copyright will be owned by The Council. However the copyright in other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated on the information itself.

You are free to use any information supplied in this response for your own non-commercial research or private study purposes. The information may also be used for any other purpose allowed by a limitation or exception in copyright law, such as news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing the information in analogue or digital form, including on the internet, will require the permission of the copyright owner. Where the copyright owner is the council you will need to make an application under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005.

For information where the copyright is owned by another person or organisation you must apply to the owner to obtain their permission.

If you have any issues regarding this letter you should contact the council in the first instance to attempt to resolve them.

You can request an internal review within 40 days of receiving the response to your original request. If you would like to request a review, please contact the Information Governance Team using the below details.

- T: 01539 637437
- E: complaints@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner (ICO) at: Information Commissioner's Officer, Wycliffe House, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or by telephoning 0303 123 1113. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Information Governance procedure provided by Westmorland and Furness Council.

Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

