



Mr John Gelmini

Information Management
Shire Hall
Warwick
CV34 4RL
Telephone 01926 412211
Email inforights@warwickshire.gov.uk

Please ask for Bruce Green

Our ref: 7147076

Your ref:

Date: 8th August 2022

Dear Mr Gelmini

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Your request for information has been considered by Warwickshire County Council under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that some of the information you have requested is held by Warwickshire County Council. However, please be advised we are unable to provide all of the information you have requested.

This is because some of the information you have requested is not held by Warwickshire County Council.

Please see below for further details and explanation.

You asked us:

1) How many of your authority's customers are in receipt of a direct payment for Care Act services, please?

1,012

2) What was the combined value of all Care Act budgets delivered through direct payments made in 2020 and 2019, please?

2019 = £8,876,052
2020 = £10,124,990

3) What is the median amount of a gross direct payment made on behalf of your organisation?

Current median average for weekly Direct Payments = £14.43

4) How frequently are direct payments made (i.e., weekly, fortnightly, 28 days or calendar month). Please provide a breakdown, thank you.

Currently 1,126 elements paid weekly and 149 paid annually.

Please note: An individual may have any number of elements active at any time, including elements of varying frequency.

5) How many of your direct payment clients receive their payment into a prepaid card or managed account? Please provide a breakdown of the numbers, thank you.

275 individuals currently receive a Direct Payment via a prepaid card, with 305 in receipt of a managed account.

6) Which prepaid card suppliers has your organisation contracted with?

EML.

7) What is the applicable contract length with these providers and when do these arrangements come up for renewal?

Contract expires on 31st August 2027, and the contract length is six years.

8) Does your organisation use prepaid cards to disburse funds to other people (i.e., asylum seekers, refugees, homeless). If so, please can you provide a breakdown of the median amount, recipient category, frequency of funds disbursed and the total value of funds made in 2020 and 2019, please?

Yes. The information below relates to Prepaid Financial Services for Children's Asylum Seekers team.

This information to answer this part of your request is not held for the requested Calendar Years. Warwickshire County Council only record and hold this information for Financial Years. Please see below the information for the relevant Financial Years covering the periods requested:

Financial Year 2018/19 = 99 clients paid via PFS cards throughout year.
Financial Year 2019/20 = 118 clients paid via PFS cards throughout year.
Financial Year 2020/21 = 102 clients paid via PFS cards throughout year.

Financial Year 2018/19 = £152,974 Paid to clients via PFS.
Financial Year 2019/20 = £215,317 Paid to clients via PFS.
Financial Year 2020/21 = £248,680 Paid to clients via PFS.

Financial Year 2018/19 = £8,199 Total of 12 monthly Invoices paid to PFS for fees plus £2,400 charge for change to contactless cards.

Financial Year 2019/20 = £8,379

Financial Year 2020/21 = £8,358 Total of 12 monthly invoices paid in FY to PFS for fees.

Please note: Within Warwickshire the local District & Borough Councils act as the Housing Authorities and are responsible for Homelessness Services. Therefore, we would advise you to also send your request to them.

Contact details for these councils are available via their respective websites:

Warwick District Council -

https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20762/privacy_and_data_protection/387/foi_and_eir_requests

Stratford-upon-Avon District Council -

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/freedom-of-information.cfm>

Rugby Borough Council -

https://www.rugby.gov.uk/info/20030/information_and_data/108/freedom_of_information

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council -

https://www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/info/21004/access_to_information/93/freedom_of_information_act

North Warwickshire Borough Council -

https://www.northwarks.gov.uk/info/20170/council_business/1128/freedom_of_information

9) Is your s151 Officer (CFO) aware of the recent £32 million GBP fine levied against Mastercard, allpay and PFS for allegedly operating a cartel in the public sector prepaid card space?

No.

Link to PSR article here:

<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.psr.org.uk%2Fnews-updates%2Flatest-news%2Fnews%2Fthe-psr-provisionally-finds-five-companies-broke-the-law-by-engaging-in-cartel-behaviour-in-the-pre-paid-cards-market%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cinforights%40warwickshire.gov.uk%7C736f41e146cb4d09550e08d96e0626c3%7C88b0aa0659274bbba89389cc2713ac82%7C0%7C0%7C637661795534414614%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWlloiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=5Zcsueei7uoCqy5i%2FGwKdxrYpfsKkJqzMcENJw8WDWM%3D&reserved=0>

10) Has your organisation released a statement about these proceedings and if so, please can you provide it, thank you?

No statement has been issued in respect of this ruling, and we are not intending to issue any statement either.

Yours faithfully.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Information Management
Shire Hall
Warwick
CV34 4RL
inforights@warwickshire.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Phone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Green
Information Rights Officer