

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_20200307**
Date FOI Received: **11/05/2020**
Department: **Business Rates**
Title: **Grants and COVID-19 support**
Description: **COVID-19 business grant figures**

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

I am researching the extent and impact of grant payments made to small businesses affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide:

- The name and address of each business that has received funds from Hertsmere Borough Council under both the Small Business Grants Fund and the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Business Grants Fund
- The amount paid to each of those businesses from those two funds
- The date on which payments were made

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

The council confirms that it holds the information you have requested. The council refuses to disclose the information you have requested and relies upon the exemption contained in Section 41 (1) (b) Freedom of Information Act 2000. It is implicit in the relationship between the council and an applicant for grant aid that any information, especially financial details, supplied in the application and decision process will be kept confidential.

The public interest in upholding a reasonable expectation of a local business to preserve the confidentiality of its financial affairs in these circumstances outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.

I can give you some general data about the number of awards we have made. Please see the table below:

Total Paid	Numbers	Value
BSGF	761	£7,610,000.00
RHL10	134	£1,340,000.00
RHL25	307	£7,675,000.00
total	1202	£16,695,000.00

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office

Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545700
Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards

Information Services

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