

East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2018/507510

Discretionary Housing Payments

1. How much money has the council spent for each of the past three financial years.

East Lothian Council's annual statement of accounts are published on our website. This means that, for the purposes of this legislation, this part of your request is exempt under Section 25(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 as the information is otherwise accessible. We have, however, provided a link to the relevant page for your convenience:

https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210603/performance_and_spending/12195/annual_accounts/1

2. How much money has the council spent on Discretionary Housing Payments, for each of the past three financial years.

2017	£762,934*
2016	£554,872
2015	£465,058

3. How much money has the council spent on Discretionary Housing Payments to households receiving Universal Credit, for each of the past three financial years.

2017	£308,061*
2016	£126,017
2015	£10,708

4. How many households have applied for Discretionary Housing Payments for each of the past three years.

a) How many of these households receive Universal Credit.

b) How many of these households receive Housing Benefit.

2017	Total applications 1,489 HB claimants 833 UC claimants 527
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2016	Total applications 1,305 HB claimants 914 UC claimants 257
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2015 Total applications 1,180
 HB claimants 1,152
 UC claimants 28

*For information, the increase in these payments is due to a number of factors. For example, as well as being linked to Universal Credit, the Scottish Government provided additional funding to mitigate "bedroom tax" and the benefit cap.