

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA150420-9012

1 May 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 15 April 2020. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

Regarding the £10,000 COVID-19 Small Business Grant Fund for businesses with rate relief or rural rate relief:

1. What is the council's process for communicating with eligible businesses and handling applications?

(e.g automatic payments, businesses notified via letter and asked to apply via link, email notification and link etc.)

2. When were businesses first notified by the council that they may be eligible to apply?

3. What is the payment turnaround time from receipt of application?

4. Is there a staggered process for making payments, and what is the process? (e.g do you deal with first 1000 applications in a block and pay them by a certain date, before moving onto the next 1000 applications etc.)

5. How many businesses within your council jurisdiction are eligible for the grant?

6. How many applications have been received as of April 17 2020?

7. How many applications have been rejected as of April 17 2020?

8. How many businesses have been paid as of April 17 2020?

Our response:

Under the Small Business Grant Fund (SBGF) all eligible businesses in England in receipt of either Small Business Rates Relief (SBRR) or Rural Rates Relief (RRR) in the business rates system will be eligible for a payment of £10,000. The Government's [Grant Funding Schemes guidance for businesses](#) states that Central Government will provide funding to Local Authorities that are responsible for business rate billing. Those Local Authorities will contact eligible businesses to arrange payment of the grants.

The GLA is London's strategic government and does not operate in the same way as local councils. The GLA is not a billing authority and therefore does not hold the information you have requested. In London you would need to contact the Borough Councils, including the City of London and Westminster City Council: <https://www.london.gov.uk/in-my-area>.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA150420-9012.

Yours sincerely



Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>