11 November 2026

**ATISN 26-0039 – Home Improvement Grants**

Dear

Thank you for your correspondence, received on 15 October 2026, in which you asked for information about Home Improvement Grants in Caerphilly.

Our responses to your questions are set out below:

1. Welsh Government Funding Provided to Caerphilly CBC For each financial year from 2020/21 to 2026/27, please provide:

a. The total amount of Welsh Government funding allocated to Caerphilly County Borough Council for:
Home-improvement grants
Housing renewal grants
Private sector housing grants
Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG)
ENABLE – Support for Independent Living
Any other Welsh Government housing-related grant schemes intended for owner-occupiers

b. A breakdown of how this funding was intended to be used.

c. Any conditions, ring-fencing requirements, or delivery expectations attached to this funding.

**Response** - Please see attached **Annex 1** for answers to questions 1. a. to 1. c..

2. Oversight of Caerphilly CBC's Suspension of Home-Repair Grants

a. Has Caerphilly County Borough Council formally notified the Welsh Government that it has suspended home-repair grants due to "matters relating to the pandemic"?

b. If so, please provide copies of:
Notifications
Correspondence
Reports

Justifications submitted by Caerphilly CBC

c. Has the Welsh Government approved, endorsed, or raised concerns about Caerphilly CBC continuing to cite pandemic-related reasons for suspending grants in 2026?

**Response** – Disabled Facility Grant (DFG)/ENABLE
We have not identified any information held by the Welsh Government which indicates that Caerphilly County Borough Council formally notified the Welsh Government that it had suspended Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) or ENABLE-funded adaptations due to matters relating to the pandemic. Accordingly, we do not hold information within the scope of parts (b) or (c) in relation to DFG or ENABLE. For completeness, information provided by Caerphilly CBC to the Welsh Government in 2026 indicates that DFGs and ENABLE-funded adaptations continued to be delivered. Caerphilly reported that DFG expenditure had exceeded its allocated budget two financial years previously as it sought to reduce historic service backlogs linked to the Covid-19 pandemic, and reported that delivery times had since reduced following procedural improvements and service efficiencies.

3. Monitoring and Compliance
a. Please provide any Welsh Government monitoring reports, audits, or compliance assessments relating to Caerphilly CBC's delivery (or non-delivery) of home-improvement grant schemes since 2020.

**Response** - DFG/ENABLE: Welsh Government collects monitoring data from local authorities, including Caerphilly County Borough Council, on the delivery of housing adaptations. This information is used to inform published Welsh Government housing adaptations statistics. Published reports are available at Housing adaptations: analysis, and statistics on Disabled Facilities Grants are also available through StatsWales. Future years' housing adaptations statistics and analysis will be published on these pages as they become available: Disabled facilities grants | StatsWales Housing adaptations: analysis | GOV.WALES

Welsh Government has not identified any separate audits or formal compliance assessments specifically relating to Caerphilly County Borough Council's delivery of DFG or ENABLE during the period covered by the request.

b. Please provide any instances where Caerphilly CBC has:
Failed to deliver a funded scheme
Delayed delivery
Returned unspent funds
Requested permission to repurpose or reallocate grant funding

**Response** –

**Leasing Scheme Wales:** Caerphilly County Borough Council joined Leasing Scheme Wales in 2024-25 (Year 3 of the programme). Between 2024-25 and 2026-

27, the authority was awarded £601,775 in capital grant funding. As at the latest position, (August 2026) capital expenditure of £108,407 had been reported against this allocation, leaving £493,368 of awarded funding not reported as spent.

In considering this position, it should be noted that Caerphilly County Borough Council entered the scheme in Year 3 and therefore participated for a shorter period than authorities that joined at the commencement of the programme. Capital allocations were linked to projected delivery and property onboarding assumptions over the remaining lifetime of the scheme. Reported expenditure and property onboarding were lower than those projections, resulting in a proportion of the capital funding awarded not being utilised during the reporting period.

We don't hold any information that Caerphilly County Borough Council requested permission to repurpose or reallocate grant funding.

**DFG/ENABLE**: Welsh Government does not provide Caerphilly County Borough Council with a separately identified or ring-fenced DFG allocation. Funding available to local authorities for DFG forms part of the unhypothecated General Capital Fund. Local authorities determine the resources they allocate to DFG in accordance with their statutory responsibilities and local priorities. Consequently, there are no specific Welsh Government DFG allocations for Caerphilly to return as unspent funding.

In relation to ENABLE, Caerphilly County Borough Council continued to receive its base ENABLE funding. From 2021/22, additional ENABLE funding was made available to support local authorities which removed means testing for small and medium DFG-type adaptations. Caerphilly County Borough Council did not take up this additional ENABLE uplift in any of the years in which it was offered. The uplift should therefore not be regarded as funding allocated to Caerphilly and subsequently left unspent or returned.

We have not identified any instances of Caerphilly County Borough Council requesting permission to repurpose or reallocate ENABLE funding for purposes outside the scope of the grant.

c. Please provide details of any Welsh Government interventions, warnings, or recommendations issued to Caerphilly CBC regarding housing grants.

**Response** –

**Leasing Scheme Wales and DFG/ENABLE**: We have not identified any formal interventions, warnings or recommendations issued to Caerphilly County Borough Council in relation to its delivery of DFG or ENABLE during the period covered by the request.

4. Use or Diversion of Ring-Fenced Funding

a. Has Caerphilly CBC ever requested permission to divert, reallocate, or repurpose Welsh Government housing-grant funding for other uses?

**Response** – DFG is not provided to Caerphilly County Borough Council as a separately identified or ring-fenced Welsh Government grant. Funding available to local authorities through the General Capital Fund is unhypothecated and local authorities determine the resources allocated to DFG in accordance with their statutory responsibilities and local priorities. The question of Caerphilly seeking Welsh Government permission to divert a specific ring-fenced DFG allocation therefore does not arise.

ENABLE is provided through specific Welsh Government grant arrangements and funding must be used for eligible purposes in accordance with the relevant grant award and its terms and conditions. We have not identified any request from Caerphilly County Borough Council to divert, reallocate or repurpose ENABLE funding for purposes outside the scope of the grant.

For clarity, Caerphilly County Borough Council did not take up the additional ENABLE means-testing uplift in any year in which it was offered. This did not constitute the diversion, reallocation or return of funding previously allocated to Caerphilly.

b. If so, please provide:
The amounts involved
The dates
The purposes for which funds were diverted Whether the Welsh Government approved or rejected such requests

**Response** – Not applicable in relation to DFG or ENABLE, on the basis set out above.

5. Welsh Government Policy Position
a. Please confirm whether Welsh Government policy currently supports the continued operation of home-improvement grants for owner-occupiers across Wales.

**Response** –

**Empty Homes Grant** – We don't directly fund Caerphilly on Empty Homes Grant but would note that Empty Homes Grant is extended until at least 31 March 2027 as per this Written Ministerial Statement- Written Statement: Making homeownership more affordable in Wales (27 July 2026) | GOV.WALES

**Leasing Scheme Wales** – Welsh Government policy has supported the continued operation of Leasing Scheme Wales throughout the duration of the programme. Leasing Scheme Wales was established as a time-limited five-year programme, with the current financial year representing the final year in which properties can be onboarded. Funding has remained available during the lifetime of the programme to support participating local authorities in delivering the scheme, including where eligible capital works are required to bring properties to the standard required for leasing under the scheme.

**Disabled Facilities Grants and ENABLE** – Support for Independent Living should be distinguished from discretionary local authority home-improvement or home-repair grant schemes. DFG is a statutory scheme delivered by local housing authorities to provide necessary and appropriate adaptations for disabled people. Welsh Government continues to support the provision of housing adaptations to enable disabled and older people to live safely and independently in their homes through DFG and ENABLE.

From 2021/22, additional ENABLE funding was made available to support local authorities which removed means testing for small and medium DFG-type adaptations. Caerphilly County Borough Council did not take up this additional uplift in any of the years in which it was offered.

b. Please confirm whether Welsh Government policy permits councils to suspend grant schemes indefinitely while continuing to receive related funding.

**Response** –

**DFG/ENABLE** – In relation to DFG, local housing authorities have statutory responsibilities under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996. DFG should therefore be distinguished from discretionary local authority home-improvement or repair schemes. DFG funding is not provided as a separately ring-fenced Welsh Government grant which a local authority continues to receive irrespective of delivery. ENABLE operates under separate Welsh Government grant arrangements. Funding must be used for eligible expenditure and in accordance with the applicable grant award and terms and conditions.

**Leasing Scheme Wales** - Funding under Leasing Scheme Wales is subject to established grant management and assurance arrangements. Local authorities are required to submit claims for eligible expenditure incurred in delivering the scheme, supported by the appropriate certification and evidence. Payments are made against expenditure that has been incurred and verified in accordance with the grant terms and conditions. Consequently, the scheme does not operate in a manner that would enable funding to continue to be drawn down in the absence of delivery activity or eligible expenditure.

**Next steps**

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely