

SPC Payments under Section 137 of the 1972 Local Govt. Act for 2022/23

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables a local council to incur a limited expenditure for the direct benefit of its area, or part of its area, or all or some of its inhabitants, where there is not already a specific power to do so. It cannot be used to benefit an individual and cannot be used retrospectively.

The maximum allowable expenditure, which is now index linked, for the year 2022/23 was £8.82 per head of electors within the parish. Our up-to-date electoral role for Steyning Parish is 4,527 and this would give an upper limit allowable for 2022/23 of £39,928 {8.82 x 4527}. It should be noted that this is not money given to SPC. Any money used under the power of section 137 has still to be obtained via the precept request to HDC.

For 2022/23 SPC spent a total of £7,401 under Section 137.

This figure being derived from the cumulative total of its grant related expenditure – that being General Grants £2,000, Well-Being Class Grant - £1,000, Steyning in Bloom Grant of £2,200 and the Isolation and Loneliness Grant of £1,500, plus monies to cover the Chairmans function and to help with the 'Steyning for Trees' commemorative event (£700).

For your information next years per electorate figure is a £9.93 allowance

This expenditure should be notified under Section 137 at a council meeting, and for this year this notification occurred during the 15th May '23 Full Council Meeting.