In March 2020, the first major grants available to businesses were the Small Business Grant Fund (SBGF) and Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Grant Fund (RLHGF). The grant details were issued in late March 2020 and the Council received £35.932M. As the grants sums payable were £10K or £25K for each eligible business with eligibility criteria specified by Government, the Council acted as an agent in administering these grants.

The Discretionary Grant Fund was also introduced, within a maximum sum of £1.684M. As the Council determined eligibility for these grants it therefore acted as a principal for this source of funding.

These grant schemes ended in October 2020, and a total £30.820M had been paid in SBGF and RLHGF to 2,683 businesses and the full allocation of £1.684M in discretionary grants to 424 businesses. The balance was returned to Central Government. The table below sets out the summary grant information.

Grants	Final grant allocation	The Council acting as Agent	The Council acting as Principal	Expenditure as at 31 March 2021	Grant Remaining as at 31 March 2021 £000
Small Business Grants/Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Grant Fund	30,820	30,820	-	30,820	
Local Authority Discretionary Fund Grant	1,684	-	1,684	1,684	
	32,504	30,820	1,684	32,504	-

For the months covering September 2020 to March 2021, the Government introduced a range of grants under the general heading of Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSG). In total the Council were allocated and received £27.240M in grant funding. Each separate scheme of LRSG had its own eligibility criteria. All except one scheme of grant funding (the Christmas Support Payments for Wet Led Public Houses) remained open for final payments beyond 31 March 2021. The table below summarises the LRSG allocation and expenditure in 2020/21.

	Total grant allocation	The Council acting as Agent	The Council acting as Principal	Expenditure as at 31 March 2021	Grant Remaining as at 31 March 2021
Grants	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Closed Tier 3 17th October 2020 (19 days)	89	77	-	77	12
Closed Addendum 5th November 2020 (28 days)	2,860	1,906	-	1,906	954
Closed Tier 3 3rd December 2020 (28 days)	420	868	-	868	(448)
Closed Tier 4 31st December 2020 (5 days)	1,045	338	-	338	707
Closed Addendum 5th January 2021 (42 days)	4,290	2,848	-	2,848	1,442
Closed Business Lockdown One-Off Payment	8,577	5,695	-	5,695	2,882
Closed Addendum 16th February 2021 (44 days)	4,494	2,941	-	2,941	1,553
Christmas Support Payment (Wet Led Pubs)	90	88	-	88	2
Open/Additional Restictions Grant	5,375	-	2,679	2,679	2,696
	27,240	14,761	2,679	17,440	9,800

From 1 April 2021, the Council began administering a new round of business support grants known as Restart Grants and it will continue to administer this grant regime until the closing date for final payments on 31 July 2021.

As outlined in the table below, the COVID-19 pandemic led the Government to introduce further specific grant regimes for the Council to administer. Each of these grants had its own terms, conditions and eligibility criteria and some had detailed reporting requirements.

	Total grant allocation	The Council acting as Principal	Expenditure as at 31 March 2021	Grant Remaining as at 31 March 2021
Grants	£000	£000	£000	£000
Contain Outbreak Management Fund	1,684	-	-	1,684
Council Tax Hardship Fund	1,425	1,011	1,011	414
COVID Winter Grant Scheme	14	-	-	14
Local Authority Compliance and Enforcement Grant	77	50	50	27
Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant	179	179	179	-
Reopening the High Street Safely Grant	70	70	70	-
Support for Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Individuals	422	-	-	422
Test and Trace Support Payments	422	208	208	214
	4,293	1,518	1,518	2,775