

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000120
Date 06 May 2016

Homecare Providers

Request:

1. The information requested
We ask the authority to provide the prices paid by the authority to independent and voluntary sector homecare providers for the provision of regulated social care services delivered to people aged 65 years or above in their own home, between Monday 18th and Sunday 24th April 2016, inclusive (the "Reference Period"). Figures requested in items 'a' to 'c', below, should be expressed in pounds and pence per hour, as follows:
 - a. The **lowest** rate per hour paid to any individual provider during the Reference Period; [£13.72](#)
 - b. The **highest** rate per hour paid to any individual provider during the Reference Period; [£13.72](#)
 - c. The **average** ("arithmetic mean") price per hour paid to all providers for all hours of homecare services purchased during the Reference Period; [£13.72](#)
 - d. The **total hours** of homecare purchased from all providers during the Reference Period; [9278](#)
 - e. The authority's **total spend** on homecare services purchased from all providers during the Reference Period; [127,294.16](#)
 - f. The **number** of homecare visits during the Reference Period commissioned within the following time bands:
 - i. 15 minutes or fewer; [2758](#)
 - ii. Between 16 minutes and 30 minutes; [12050](#)
 - iii. Between 31 minutes and 45 minutes; [1927](#)
 - iv. Between 46 minutes and 60 minutes; [632](#)
 - v. Over 60 minutes; [422](#)

- g. In relation to contracts held with independent and voluntary sector homecare providers:
- i. Whether the council has imposed any requirement that providers pay their workers an hourly rate above the prevailing National Minimum Wage (including the National Living Wage); **No**
 - ii. The maximum rate specified, if the answer to question g.i. (above) applies. **n/a**
- h. A **breakdown of any calculation** undertaken by the council to assess providers' costs for delivering homecare services to the council, where the calculation was intended to include the costs of the National Living Wage from April 2016. **Attached pdf**
- i. The Council's **total spending on all adult social care services** (including in-house costs and services purchased from others):
- i. The **actual spend** (or forecast spend) for the year ending 31st March 2016; and: **£72.4 million**
 - ii. The **budget allocation** for the year ending 31st March 2017. **£69.3 million**
- j. In relation to the 2% council tax precept for England:
- i. The council's official estimate of the value of the Council Tax Precept for the financial year 2016-17 (whether the council has adopted the precept or not). **£1.7 million**
 - ii. Confirmation of whether the council will implement the precept for the financial year 2016-17. **Yes**

The authority may, at its discretion, provide any qualifying statements or clarification about the figures returned. However, in doing so, the council should note our description of how we intend to use this data, outlined in section 5 of this letter.

2. Interpretation

In cases of doubt, the authority should apply a 'common sense' interpretation to the request outlined in section 1, above.

The following guidance will assist the authority in selecting the correct data-sample to complete this request in **questions 'a' to 'f'**.

The data sample used to provide this information should **include**:

- Services delivered to adults aged 65 years and above;
- Services which are primarily designed to provide personal care and support, including prompting to undertake such activities.

The authority should **exclude** the following items from the data sample used:

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

- Services provided to adults under 65 years of age;
- Services provided primarily to support people with a learning disability or a physical disability;
- Services which are charged by reference to a unit price, other than a price per hour (or part thereof);
- Direct payments made to people in lieu of the provision of services by the council;
- Services provided by any "in-house" homecare team, where the workforce is employed by the authority itself.

