

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001802
Date 27 December 2017

Domestic Violence

Request:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

Please can you provide me with details of:

1. The amount of money the local authority gave to domestic violence refuges in each financial year since 2010/11;

Financial Year	Total (£000)
2010/11	1,546
2011/12	1,510
2012/13	1,583
2013/14	1,503
2014/15	1,346
2015/16	949
2016/17	777
2017/18	727

This is expenditure relates to housing related support and infrastructure/core support costs to refuges, these costs are for commissioned services to provide support to victims of domestic violence.

2. The total number of domestic violence refuges or any other form of accommodation-based support located within the local authority, as at the end of each financial year since 2010/11;

From 2007 to 7 December 2013, one service provider was contracted to provide five refuges and support a total of 46 women at any one time. Since 8 December 2013, all refuges have been generic and are required to provide specialist support as required using five refuges with a maximum capacity of 73 women plus their children until 31 March 2015. This was reviewed and revised to 50 women plus their children from 1 April 2015 to date.

3. The total number of domestic violence refuges located within the local authority that have been closed since 2010/11; and

Whilst funding and contracting arrangements will have changed during this period the Council is not aware of any refuge provision that has been closed.

4. Whether the local authority bid for funding from the VAWG Service Transformation Fund and, if it did, when the bid was successful and confirmation of whether the Government released the funds yet.

Wolverhampton received confirmation of a £500,000 allocation from the Home Office VAWG Service Transformation Fund in July; the grant agreement was signed in Sept; the grant covers the three year period for 2017-2020. The fund covers a set programme of transformation work and is paid in arrears, so is drawn down against spend.

In relation to the requests above, domestic violence refuges includes any other accommodation-based support for victims of domestic violence. The total amount of money should include any funding provided by the local authority to domestic violence refuges, where such places are commissioned through multi-agency working.