

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000254
Date 01 July 2016

Care/Nursing Homes

Request:

Please provide figures for Adult Service Users for the number of:

- 1) Safeguarding concerns received
- 2) Number of investigations conducted
- 3) Number of substantiated cases of abuse/neglect

by your local authority in connection with or from individual care/nursing homes.

Please provide these figures in the following way:

1. Name and address of each home.
2. Name of owner if possible but not necessary (e.g. Four Seasons Health Care)
3. Breakdown of number of safeguarding concerns, investigations and substantiated cases of neglect/abuse in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and for 2016 between January and May.

Please provide these figures in an excel spreadsheet or word document table format.

In response to your request in regards to the above, we can confirm that following careful consideration, the Council regrets to inform you that it has decided not to disclose this information.

Information you have requested has been withheld from disclosure. The exemption engaged is Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

Section 12 of the FOI exempts Public Authorities from providing information where the estimated cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. Any estimate must be undertaken in accordance with the limits set in fees regulations made under Section 12 (5) of the FOI.

These Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244 Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations) allow for a refusal where the cost of compliance, for local authorities such as the Council, would exceed £450. As a guide, staff time to identify and extract this information is charged at a rate of £25 per hour.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

In summary, we cannot easily gather this information as the Council does not record the information as a distinct and searchable set in its systems. In order to determine the information you have requested will require a full range scrutiny and manual interrogate of 1000+ files for each year. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

If you can narrow down your request the Council will look into the matter again and may be able to provide the information free of charge because it would cost less than the appropriate limit to do so. Any reformulated request the department receives from you will be treated as a fresh FOI request.