

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000813
Date 24 January 2017

School Nurses and Health Visitors

Request:

Part One – This relates to school nurses commissioned by your authority since local councils took responsibility for delivering and commissioning public health services for children and young people aged 5-19 in April 2013. Please include internal and external employees. Please provide:

1. The number of school nurses (full time equivalent) commissioned by your authority on a) 1 April 2013 when your council took responsibility for this service, b) 1 April 2014, c) 1 April 2015, d) 1 April 2016, e) currently commissioned by your authority, as of 23 January 2017 (if numbers are not available for these exact dates please provide the closest date recorded).
In respect of your question 1, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above workforce information. City of Wolverhampton Council, Public Health contracts are specified as services, we do not set staffing requirements. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

However, I can advise you that this information would be held by Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV10 0QP

2. The number of school nurses (full time equivalent) you plan to commission for the year 2017/18, if a budget has been set.
In respect of your question 2, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above workforce information. City of Wolverhampton Council, Public Health contracts are specified as services, we do not set staffing requirements. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

However, I can advise you that this information would be held by Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV10 0QP

3. The total budget for commissioning school nurses in your authority for each of the following years: a) 2013/14, b) 2014/15, c) 2015/16 and d) 2016/17.
 - a) 2013/14 - £1,726,100
 - b) 2014/15 - £1,726,190
 - c) 2015/16 - £1,726,190
 - d) 2016/17 - £1,726,190

Please note the above are budgeted contract values for School Nursing services.

4. The budget for commissioning school nurses in your authority for the 2017/18 year, if a budget has been set.

In respect of question 4, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information as the budget for 2017/2018 as not yet been set.

Also we are currently going through a re-tender process for the Healthy Child Programme which incorporates a service for 0-19 year olds and as a result includes both the school nurses and health visitor services.

Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

Part Two – This relates to health visitors commissioned by your authority since local councils took over commissioning of the service from NHS England on 1 October 2015. Please include internal and external employees. Please provide:

1. The number of health visitors (full time equivalent) commissioned by your authority a) on 1 October 2015 when it took over commissioning of the service from NHS England, b) on 1 October 2016 and c) currently commissioned by your authority, as of 23 January 2017 (if numbers are not available for these exact dates please provide the closest date recorded).

With reference to question 1 above, City of Wolverhampton Council was not responsible for commissioning health services prior to October 2015. Health visitor numbers were collected nationally up to September 2015 (see link provided below).
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/health-visitors/indicative-health-visitor-collection-ihvc/>

In respect of information after September 2015, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold that information. Consequently, we are unable to provide this information, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2005, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

I can advise you that this information would be held by Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV10 0QP.

2. The total budget for commissioning health visitors in your authority in each of the following years: a) 2015/2016 and b) 2016/17
 - a) 2015/2016 - £2,182,930
 - b) 2016/2017 - £4,365,860

Please note the above are budgeted contract values for Health Visitor services.

3. The budget for commission health visitors in your authority for the 2017/18 year, if a budget has been set.

In respect of question 3, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information as the budget for 2017/2018 as not yet been set.

Also we are currently going through a re-tender process for the Healthy Child Programme which incorporates a service for 0-19 year olds and as a result includes both the school nurses and health visitor services.

Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".