

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001141
Date 16 May 2017

Textbook Spend

Request:

Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request details relating to total spend on textbooks in your Local Education Authority.

In particular, I would like to request the following information:

1. How much was spent on textbooks in total by a) primary schools and b) secondary schools in each of the last five financial years?

In respect of your above question, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information. 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".

2. How much was spent in total on all classroom learning resources by a) primary schools and b) secondary schools, with an indication of what resources this would cover, in each of the last five financial years.

With reference to the year 2016/17, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold this information as this is not yet available. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to 2016/17, 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".

With reference to the remainder of the years, please find below information.

Expenditure on Category E19: Learning Resources			
	Nursery	Primary	Secondary
2012-13	80,232	3,188,599	3,045,072
2013-14	98,657	3,790,140	2,954,277
2014-15	112,042	3,504,425	2,323,213
2015-16	153,744	3,468,761	1,627,296

Category E19: Learning Resources is defined by the Consistent Financial Reporting Framework and includes:

- achievement gifts and prizes awarded to pupils
- books (library and text books)
- charges for the school library
- classroom and learning equipment (excluding ICT equipment)
- curriculum transport, including minibus expenses such as maintenance, tax, fuel (excludes insurance)
- furniture used for teaching purposes
- pupil travel for work experience placements
- purchase, lease, hire or maintenance contracts of audio-visual or other equipment used for teaching
- reprographic resources and equipment used specifically for teaching purposes
- school trips and educational visits
- servicing and repairs to musical instruments and PE equipment used as part of the curriculum
- subscriptions, publications, periodicals and copyright fees associated with the curriculum, including sums de-delegated by the LA (not nationally administered licences purchased by the Secretary of State)
- teaching materials
- television licence fees used for teaching purposes
- payments to alternative provision services including pupil referral units (PRU), non-maintained special schools (NMSS), and independent schools
- primary school PIP examination costs
- payments made to students in receipt of the 16-19 Bursary Fund

And specifically excludes:

- curriculum ICT costs
- resources that are used for administrative purposes.

3. What was the total amount of funding provided for all proposes to a) primary and b) secondary schools in the Local Education Authority in each of the last five financial years and how many schools that funding related to.

The table below details the capital expenditure invested in schools by the Local Authority using a combination of Capital Grants and Council Resources (including Capital Receipts and Borrowing).

	Pre-Primary and Primary		Secondary	
	Expenditure	No. Schools	Expenditure	No. Schools
2012-13	7,888	15	68,071	16
2013-14	10,284	9	44,303	17
2014-15	4,739	32	4,127	17
2015-16	13,184	39	1,179	14
2016-17	12,124	49	1,468	7

4. What was the number of a) primary school and b) secondary school children in the Local Education Authority in each of the last five financial years?

I can confirm that City of Wolverhampton Council holds this information. The information you have requested is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), because the information is accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain.

Please see links supplied below. You will need to click the link for each year eg., 2016.

The relevant report is 'Local authority and regional tables' where pupil numbers are broken down by school type, and are given for each English local authority including Wolverhampton.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-school-and-pupil-numbers>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/schools-pupils-and-their-characteristics-january-2016>