

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001161
Date 19 May 2017

Services for Children and Young People with Disabilities

Request:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information.

Where I am requesting a 'description', please consider the following:

- (i) This description may be provided through one or a combination of existing and readily accessible document(s) such as Organisation Chart(s), Terms of Reference, Project documentation and/or relevant report(s), including decision and/or review report(s).
 - (ii) This description should explain if there is one single or several individual services (i.e. teams, groups or partnerships), and which organisation(s) and department(s) they are part of.
- (1) A description of the current structure and governance of the social service(s) in place for children and young people (up to the age of 25) with disabilities, and how this/these service(s) work(s) with other services or organisations such as SEN (Special Education Needs) or Health.

For example, a Local Authority may have a team looking after children aged 0 – 11 (with all staff from one department) and then another one covering children and young people aged over 11 until 25 (with staff from 2 departments). The way these teams work with other services and organisations (i.e. integrated or not) should also be explained, in particular if there is a form of integration or formal board or partnership or group in place.

[Wolverhampton's Children and Young People's Service has one dedicated team who work specifically with Disabled Children and Young People aged between 0-25.](#)

[The Disabled Children and Young Peoples Team works in partnership with families, early years, education services and other agencies such as health and the voluntary sector to ensure that best use is made of all local and available resources.](#)

The team is represented at the SEND partnership board, Multi agency Transitions forum, CHC panels, ASD panel, Multi agency referrals panel and Education and Health care panels. We also work closely with Adult services and commissioning. Partnership and joint working is very much promoted.

The teams structure is as follows-

1 x Service Manager

2.5 x Social Work Unit Managers

13.5 x Social Workers, 8 Social Workers work directly with children and the other 5.5 work specifically with Young people moving through Transitions into Adulthood.

1 x Social care worker

1 x Carer support worker

Within the establishment, we also have x2 SW's who are qualified AMPH's and 5 qualified Best interest assessors. We also have a practice educator.

- (2) A description of any significant change(s), made during the last 10 years, to the structure and governance of the social service(s) in place for children and young people (up to the age of 25) with disabilities, as well as any recorded lessons learned from these/this change(s).

Prior to September 2016 Wolverhampton's Disabled Children and Young People's Team was managed as part of Wolverhampton's All Age Disability service, however following a restructure the decision was made for the team to be accountable and managed by Wolverhampton's Children and Young People's service area.

The service is in line with SEND reforms.