

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 001220  
Date            13 June 2017

### ***Social Care Services***

#### **Request:**

We ask the following questions under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

1. What was the council's gross expenditure on children's social services and expenditure on service provision in:

<b>Financial year</b>	<b>Gross expenditure (£s)</b>	<b>Of which (£s) was spent on service provision</b>
2016/17	61,748,000	
2015/16	66,163,000	
2014/15	68,302,000	
2013/14	55,643,000	
2012/13	47,485,000	
2011/12	43,922,000	
2010/11	33,403,000	

The figures have been taken from the National Statistical Return - Revenue Outturn Form (RO3) for Wolverhampton's Children's Social Services. It is not possible to extract the amount of expenditure that was spent purely on service provision.

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2. How many disabled children does the council currently have a record of, and what is their primary support reason?

<b>Primary care need</b>	<b>Number of children recorded by council</b>
Total	1325
Autistic spectrum disorder	
Learning disability	
Mental health condition	
Life limiting illness	
Physical disability	
Sensory impairment	
Other	

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Your request for information has now been considered. Unfortunately, City of Wolverhampton Council cannot supply all of the information you requested for the reasons set out below. Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires City of Wolverhampton Council, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you, the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies:

In relation to your particular request, the following exemption applies:

**Section 12 - Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit**

We can confirm that the Council holds information falling within the description specified in your request. However, Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows a public authority to refuse a request if the cost of providing the information to the applicant would exceed the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information.

The Regulations provide that the appropriate limit to be applied to requests received by local authorities is £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of work). In estimating the cost of complying with a request for information, an authority can only take into account any reasonable costs incurred in:

- (a) *Determining whether it holds the information,*
  - (b) *Locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,*
  - (c) *Retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information,*
- and
- (d) *Extracting the information from a document containing it.*

*For the purposes of the estimate the costs of performing these activities should be estimated at a rate of £25 per hour.*

The information appertaining to how many disabled children does the council currently have a record of, and what is their primary support reason is not easily accessible and as such this information is not held as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on. To get the information would require a full scale look into all individual records. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe that the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

3. How many disabled children did the council provide social care services to in:

<b>Financial year</b>	<b>Total disabled children receiving services</b>
2016/17	461
2015/16	501

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

2014/15	578
2013/14	478
2012/13	468
2011/12	354
2010/11	340

4. Of those disabled children to receive services in 2016/17, how many received the following service types and what was the total expenditure on each service type?

Service type	Total disabled children receiving services	Total expenditure (£s)
Short breaks/respite care	134	
Portage services		
Emotional support		
Occupational therapy		
Speech and language therapy		
Leisure/play opportunities		
Buddying/befriending		
Daily living skills training		
Transportation services		
Provision of equipment		
Home adaptations		
Personal budgets and/or direct payments		
Other		

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The information appertaining to disabled children to receive services in 2016/17, how many received the following service types is not easily accessible and as such this information is not held as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on. To get the information would require a full scale look into all individual records. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe that the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

Total expenditure on disabled children receiving services:

<b>Year</b>	<b>£000</b>
2016-17	1,388

It is not possible to extract the amount of expenditure that was spent on each of services detailed above.