

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 002433
Date 21 June 2018

Learning Disabilities

Request:

1. Please could you supply the name, email address and telephone number of the commissioner with responsibility for learning disabilities placements?

[Alicia Wood](#)

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For questions 2 to 6, please supply this information as a snapshot at the end of the year for the financial years 2016/17 to 2017/18, and where possible, the most up to date snapshot available for 2018/19.

2. Please provide the total number of adults with learning disabilities funded by the Local Authority in residential care.

Year	Permanent	Temporary
2016-2017	165	82
2017-2018	156	82
2018-2019	134	64

3. Of the total number of adults with learning disabilities funded by the Local Authority in residential care (q.2) please provide the number that are in 'in area' placements and the number that are in 'out of area' placements.

Year	In area Permanent	In area Temporary	Out of area Permanent	Out of area Temporary
2016-2017	105	78	73	4
2017-2018	80	73	76	9
2018-2019	67	62	68	2

4. Please provide the total number of adults with learning disabilities funded by the Local Authority in supported living.

Year	No. Clients	No. Agreements
2016-2017	121	212
2017-2018	152	222
2018-2019	145	166

5. Please provide the number of adults with learning disabilities who transitioned from children's learning disabilities services into adult's services - in total, into adult residential care services only, and into adult supported living services only.

In respect of question 5, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information as children's learning disability services is not recorded in a format that would accurately reflect the information you require.

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".

6. Please provide the number of adults with learning disabilities who 'stepped down' from specialist inpatient hospital placements into adult residential care and supported living services.

Your request for information has now been considered and the City of Wolverhampton Council is not obliged to supply 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 your request 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).

7. Please provide the local authority's total expenditure on residential care and supported living for adults with learning disabilities for each of the financial years 2016/17 to 2017/18, and where possible, budgeted expenditure for 2018/19. If expenditure for 2017/18 is not yet available, please provide projected expenditure.

Gross Expenditure

	2016-2017 Actual £	2017-2018 Actual £	2018-2019 Budget £
Residential	9,374,218	9,585,771	8,103,815
Supported Living	6,890,114	8,063,115	6,378,856

8. Please provide the highest, lowest, and average weekly rate paid by the Local Authority for residential care placements for adults with a learning disability for each of the financial years 2016/17 to 2018/19. If the Local Authority has weekly rate bands, please also provide these.

Year	Min	Max	Average
2016-2017	448.39	2675.25	1324.63
2017-2018	448.39	3371.40	1351.28
2018-2019	448.39	2675.25	1327.07

9. Please provide the highest, lowest, and average hourly rate paid by the Local Authority for supported living placements for adults with a learning disability for each of the financial years 2016/17 to 2018/19. If the Local Authority has hourly rate bands, please also provide these.

Financial Year	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3
2016-2017	£13.00	£13.01 - £13.80	£13.81 - £17.72
2017-2018	£13.00	£13.01 - £13.80	£13.81 - £17.72
2018-2019	-removed	£13.80	£13.81 - £17.72

Financial Year	Highest rate paid	Lowest rate paid	Average Hourly Rate paid band 1	Average Hourly Rate paid band 2	Average Hourly Rate paid band 3
2016-2017	£14.80	£13.00	£13.00	£13.63	£14.25
2017-2018	£14.80	£13.00	Not used	£13.63	£14.25
2018-2019	£14.50*	£13.80	Not used	£13.80	*£14.50

* Placements made in 2018/19 to date