

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 002763
Date 12 September 2018

Adult Social Care

Request:

In July 2013 the Department of Health announced a series of reforms to the system of providing adult social care in England. This was backed by a commitment by the Department of Health, Local Government Association and ADASS to work in partnership to ensure smooth delivery of these reforms. (Under the Conservative/Liberal Democrat coalition government.)

Specifically, the new system would include a new cap of £72,000 on eligible care costs for people at state pension age and over, and additional financial help for people with less than £118,000 in assets including their home. There would be annual 'care account' statements to project when someone will reach the cap or qualify for additional financial support.

The Department said this would come into effect in 2016. (However the policy was postponed until 2020 in 2015.)

For further background, the details are in this press release:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-fairer-capped-funding-system-to-help-everyone-plan-for-the-cost-of-care>

The following questions relate to any work conducted by or on behalf of the council in preparing for implementation, and the implementation itself, of these policies: the new cap of £72,000 on eligible care costs for people at state pension age and over, additional financial help for people with less than £118,000 in assets, and annual 'care account' statements.

QUESTION 1

How many:

- a) staff hours were assigned to *internal council staff* towards implementing these policies?
- b) staff hours were contracted out to *external individuals/organisations* (e.g. consultants) towards implementing these policies?

QUESTION 2

How much were the staffing costs in financial terms for:

a) *Internal staff*

Please break down the costs according to the following years:

2013/14

2014/15

2015/16

2016/17

2017/18

b) *External individuals/organisations*

Please break down the costs according to the following years:

2013/14

2014/15

2015/16

2016/17

2017/18

QUESTION 3

Were there any other costs? Please provide details (including dates of expenditure) if so.

Following reasonable enquiries, it has been established that the Council does not hold the above requested 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 Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("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".