

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 002914
Date 29 October 2018

Care Planning, Placement and Review 2010 Regulations

Request:

Please see a Freedom of Information request below.

The request relates to section 7 of the Care Planning, Placement and Review 2010 regulations, which states: .—(1) **Before C is first placed by them or, if that is not reasonably practicable, before the first review of C's case, the responsible authority must make arrangements for a registered medical practitioner to—**
(a) carry out an assessment of C's state of health, and
(b) provide a written report of the assessment, addressing the matters specified in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1,

Schedule 1-Information to be included in the health plan

1.—(1) C's state of health including C's physical, emotional and mental health.

FOI Questions:

1. How many young people entered the care of your authority from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017? **175**
2. How many of the number of young people that entered the care of your authority from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017, had their emotional and mental health assessed by a registered medical practitioner on entry to the care of your authority?
Using the guidance highlighted in yellow above - Of the 175 children and young people who entered care in 2016-17, 117 had been in care for more than 20 working days at year end, or by the time they left care (i.e. they had been in care long enough for a health assessment to take place). Of the 117, 9 had a health assessment take place either 20 working days before or after they entered care.
3. Out of the young people who entered the care of your authority from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 31 2017, how many young people have had a written assessment of their emotional and mental health?
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).

4. Out of the young people who entered the care of your authority from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017, how many young people were assessed as needing emotional or mental health support?
As above.