

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 0316160
Date 31 March 2016

Visual Impairment

Request:

1. What was the total budget spend by the authority on rehabilitation services for blind and partially sighted adults in

a) 2015/16 - Staffing £72,740
 - Equipment £8,500

b) 2016/17 - Staffing : £78,560
 - Equipment : £8,500

2. How many rehabilitation officers and assistants of visual impairment are employed by the authority (or the organisation delivering rehab services), and what is their full time equivalent?

There are 3 posts for qualified Rehabilitation Officers. The total hours available are equivalent to 2 full time posts.

3. Does the authority plan to review or to make changes to the structured programme of adult's vision rehabilitation services? If yes, please provide information on the planned changes.

There are no plans for a significant change to the structure. However, we are working on :

- * Alignment with the Council's Hearing Impairment Service
- * Improving the timeliness of the receipts of the CVIs from the NHS
- * Improving the timeliness of the Council's response to the receipt of the CVIs to ensure Care Act 2014 compliance

4. Does the authority operate eligibility criteria in order for people to access vision rehabilitation services? If yes please provide a copy of the criteria.

The team works with people who :

- Are over 18 years old and
- Are Wolverhampton residents and
- Have a CVI and want to be registered and assessed or
- Are severely sight impaired and request an assessment and services or equipment and

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

- Live in the community or Very Sheltered Housing (in some cases Rehabilitation Workers will also advise residential care providers on environmental adaptations, lighting etc.)

We are in the process of developing Sensory Disability Services in conjunction with the Council's Hearing Impairment Services , and our public information is in its early stages. Basic information about the service is available on the Council Website's Wolverhampton Information Network (WIN)
<http://win.wolverhampton.gov.uk/kb5/wolverhampton/directory/home.page>