

Education & Skills

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Customer reference:

Our reference: REQ05727

18 June 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for your request for information relating to visually impaired pupils.

You have requested the following information:

	Local authority name:
1.1.1 Section 1: Organisation and funding of your local authority Education Vision Impairment (VI) Advisory service	Coventry LA
QUESTION 1a. How is provision for children and young people with vision impairment funded? (please indicate only one option with an 'x')	
i) Centrally funded by the LA for specialist support for all pupils with VI	X
ii) Partially delegated to individual schools who purchase specialist support from the LA under 'traded services' arrangement	
iii) Fully delegated to individual schools who purchase specialist support from the LA under 'traded services' arrangement	

iv) Other or additional comments (please give details, free text):	
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QUESTION: 1b. Which of the following arrangements applies to the VI service in your LA? (Please indicate 'yes' to all that apply)	
i) Fully traded to maintained schools (including academies)	
ii) Partially traded to maintained schools (including academies)	
iii) No elements of VI service support are traded to maintained schools (including academies)	Yes
iv) Fully traded to further education (FE) colleges	
v) Partially traded to further education (FE) colleges	Yes
vi) Is any aspect of direct CYP individual support traded?	
vii) Additional comments, optional (free text)	

QUESTION: 1c. If you answered 'yes' to any traded service arrangement in question 1b, please give further details of the service that is traded and who it is traded to? (free text)	Traded support is available to Further Education colleges if requested following on from an initial (non traded) transition meeting/training
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1.1.2 Section 2: Structuring of services	
QUESTION: 2. In the past twelve months, have any changes been made to the way that provision for children and young people with vision impairment is funded and/or organised? (please indicate only one option with an 'x')	
i) Yes	
ii) No	X

QUESTION: 2b. If 'yes', please give details of changes: (free text)	N/A
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QUESTION: 2c. Were these changes consulted on with parents and VI organisations? (please indicate only one option with an 'x')	N/A
i) Yes, parents only	
ii) Yes, VI organisations only	
iii) Yes, both parents and VI organisations	
iv) No, parents and VI organisations were not consulted	

QUESTION: 2d. Any additional information on the consultation? (optional) (free text)	N/A
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QUESTION: 2e. Are there any current or proposed reviews of the VI service that will affect the way it is organised, managed or funded (including moving to/from a traded services arrangement), or are likely to affect the way that support for CYP with VI is provided or funded? (please indicate only one option with an 'x')	
i) Yes	
ii) No	X
iii) Don't know	

QUESTION: 2f. Any additional information? (optional) (free text)	
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QUESTION: 3a. Please provide overall VI service budget (including staff, equipment and training): (please enter a monetary value)	
i) Budget for 2017/18	£516,302
ii) Budget for 2018/19	£528,009
iii) Budget for 2019/20	£544,164
iv) Additional information, optional (free text)	

QUESTION: 3b. If the budget above is shared with another service or cannot be separated from the sensory budget, please state what the budget encompasses here: (free text)	N/A
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QUESTION: 4a. What percentage of the High Needs Funding budget is spent on the overall VI service budget? (please enter a percentage value)	1.6%
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QUESTION: 4b. Any additional information? (optional) (free text)	The percentages are calculated based on the local authority's DSG High Needs Block allocation received excluding the High Needs deductions.
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1.1.3 Section 3: Number of CYP on the VI service caseload and support available	
QUESTION: 5a. Please give the number of children and young people with vision impairment on the VI service <u>active caseload</u> (i.e. those supported by the VI service and not included in Q6a) for the	

following categories (number ranges in each category represent age. Please enter numerical values):	
Total: all ages:	180
Total: Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) (0-5 years)	33
Total: Year 1 to Year 6	90
Total: Year 7 to Year 11	49
Total: Year 12 to Year 13	7
Total: Above Year 13	1
EHCP Total: all ages:	69
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP): EYFS (0-5 years)	8
EHCP: Year 1 to Year 6	34
EHCP: Year 7 to Year 11	25
EHCP: Year 12 to Year 13	1
EHCP: Above Year 13	1
SEN Support total: all ages:	111
Special Education Need (SEN) Support: EYFS (0-5 years)	25
SEN Support: Year 1 to Year 6	56
SEN Support: Year 7 to Year 11	24
SEN Support: Year 12 to Year 13	6
SEN Support: Above Year 13	0
Not yet assessed/categorised total: all ages:	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: EYFS (0-5 years)	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 1 to Year 6	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 7 to Year 11	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 12 to Year 13	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Above Year 13	0
Other total (please state any other groups which do not fit the above categories, optional): all ages:	0
Other: EYFS (0-5 years)	0
Other: Year 1 to Year 6	0
Other: Year 7 to Year 11	0
Other: Year 12 to Year 13	0
Other: Above Year 13	0

QUESTION: 5b. Any additional information? (optional) (free text)	No
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QUESTION: 6a. Please give the number of children and young people with vision impairment, known to the VI service but	
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not receiving direct support from the LA service for the following categories: (e.g. who are 'advice on request' or being monitored only, who are in a VI resourced or independent school, or whose family home is in the LA but who are being educated in another authority)(These are in addition to CYP included in Q5a): (number ranges in each category represent age. Please enter numerical values)	
Total: all ages:	8
Total: Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) (0-5 years)	0
Total: Year 1 to Year 6	1
Total: Year 7 to Year 11	2
Total: Year 12 to Year 13	5
Total: Above Year 13	0
EHCP Total: all ages:	8
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP): EYFS (0-5 years)	4
EHCP: Year 1 to Year 6	0
EHCP: Year 7 to Year 11	2
EHCP: Year 12 to Year 13	2
EHCP: Above Year 13	0
SEN Support total: all ages:	4
Special Education Need (SEN) Support: EYFS (0-5 years)	0
SEN Support: Year 1 to Year 6	1
SEN Support: Year 7 to Year 11	0
SEN Support: Year 12 to Year 13	3
SEN Support: Above Year 13	0
Not yet assessed/categorised total: all ages:	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: EYFS (0-5 years)	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 1 to Year 6	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 7 to Year 11	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 12 to Year 13	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Above Year 13	0
Other total (please state any other groups which do not fit the above categories, optional): all ages:	0
Other: EYFS (0-5 years)	0
Other: Year 1 to Year 6	0
Other: Year 7 to Year 11	0
Other: Year 12 to Year 13	0
Other: Above Year 13	0

QUESTION: 6b. Any additional information? (optional) (free text)	
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QUESTION: 7a. Of the children and young people on the active caseload, please give the number with vision impairment with other SEN/disabilities/additional complex needs: (number ranges in each category represent age. Please enter numerical values)	
Total: all ages:	89
Total: Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) (0-5 years)	20
Total: Year 1 to Year 6	36
Total: Year 7 to Year 11	29
Total: Year 12 to Year 13	3
Total: Above Year 13	1
EHCP Total: all ages:	64
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP): EYFS (0-5 years)	8
EHCP: Year 1 to Year 6	25
EHCP: Year 7 to Year 11	27
EHCP: Year 12 to Year 13	3
EHCP: Above Year 13	1
SEN Support total: all ages:	25
Special Education Need (SEN) Support: EYFS (0-5 years)	12
SEN Support: Year 1 to Year 6	11
SEN Support: Year 7 to Year 11	2
SEN Support: Year 12 to Year 13	0
SEN Support: Above Year 13	0
Not yet assessed/categorised total: all ages:	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: EYFS (0-5 years)	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 1 to Year 6	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 7 to Year 11	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Year 12 to Year 13	0
Not yet assessed/categorised: Above Year 13	0
Other total (please state any other groups which do not fit the above categories, optional): all ages:	0
Other: EYFS (0-5 years)	0
Other: Year 1 to Year 6	0
Other: Year 7 to Year 11	0
Other: Year 12 to Year 13	0

Other: Above Year 13	0
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QUESTION: 7b. Any additional information? (optional) (free text)	The figures above relate to those children with VI plus an additional need
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QUESTION: 8a. Of the children and young people on the active caseload, please give the number educated in each of the settings below where applicable: (please enter numeric values)	
i) Mainstream school	84
ii) Mainstream with VI resource provision	0
iii) Mainstream academy	14
iv) Special school academy	6
v) Maintained special school for pupils with VI	0
vi) Non-maintained special school for pupils with VI	0
vii) Other type of special school (e.g. PD, SLD, HI) (maintained & non-maintained)	56
viii) Other type of setting (e.g. hospital school, home educated)	5
ix) If other type of setting, please write here (free text)	23 All others in nursery/home

QUESTION: 8b. Any additional information? (optional) (free text)	
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QUESTION: 9. In which of the following settings does the VI service support early years children (i.e. 3 years and under)? (Please indicate 'yes' to all that apply)	
i) Within the child's home	Yes
ii) In pre-school/early years settings	Yes
iii) School settings (e.g. nursery class in mainstream or special school)	Yes
iv) In settings where the child is cared for by a childminder (outside of their home)	Yes
v) Other settings (please give details, free text)	

QUESTION: 10a. What criteria does the VI service use for allocating levels of support? (Please indicate 'yes' to all that apply)	
i) NatSIP Eligibility Framework for Scoring Support Levels (2015)	Yes
ii) Locally developed criteria	
iii) Other arrangement (please give details)	

QUESTION: 10b. Does your LA require a CYP with VI to meet any of the following criteria before they will be considered for assessment for an EHCP? (Please indicate 'yes' to all that apply)	
i) They must meet a specified level of severity/visual acuity	Yes
ii) They must have additional SEND	Yes
iii) They must be failing to make the expected level of progress	Yes
iv) They are expected to attend a special school	Yes
v) Other – please specify: (free text)	

QUESTION: 11. How many children or young people with VI have had their support reduced in the last 12 months? Please use reasons for reduction in support as listed below: (please indicate 'yes' to all that apply in the first row and indicate number in the second row for all those where 'yes' has been entered)	
i) Review of SEN support or EHCP Plan (yes/no)	Yes
ii) Review of SEN support or EHCP Plan (if yes, please enter numeric values)	Specific numbers not recorded
iii) Positive change in management of vision impairment and improved independence (yes/no)	Yes
iv) Positive change in management of vision impairment and improved independence (if yes, please enter numeric values)	Specific numbers not recorded
v) Restructure of service delivery model, i.e. more remote support, train the trainer etc. (yes/no)	No
vi) Restructure of service delivery model, i.e. more remote support, train the trainer etc. (if yes, please enter numeric values)	N/A
vii) Service capacity (yes/no)	No
viii) Service capacity (if yes, please enter numeric values)	N/A
ix) Other (yes/no)	No
x) Other (if yes, please enter numeric values)	N/A
xi) Please explain if other: (free text)	

QUESTION: 12. What is the total number of children and young people who use (or in the case of EYFS children, are expected to use) braille as their sole or main literacy medium? (please enter numeric values)	6
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QUESTION: 13. Are there any groups of children and young people with VI that are NOT currently supported by the VI service? (Please give details for all that apply)	
i) Specific age groups (please give details)	
ii) Children/YP in specific types of setting e.g. academies, further education etc. (please give details)	
iii) Children/YP with complex needs (please give details)	
iv) Any other groups (please give details)	

1.1.4 Section 4: VI service staffing	
QUESTION: 14. Which (if any) of the following qualifications are held by the person with responsibility for strategic management of the VI service? (Please indicate 'yes' to all that apply)	
i) Qualified teacher of pupils with vision impairment (QTVI) (i.e. holds the mandatory qualification (MQ) in VI)	Yes
ii) Qualified teacher of the Deaf (TOD) (i.e. holds the mandatory qualification (MQ) in HI)	Yes
iii) Qualified teacher of pupils with Multi-sensory Impairment (QTMSI) (i.e. holds the mandatory qualification (MQ) in MSI)	
iv) Other qualifications (if yes please give details, free text)	BSL qualifications

QUESTION: 15. This question is broken into three sections. Please give the numbers of teachers employed directly by the VI service (this includes peripatetic/advisory teachers, school-based teachers, and VI service manager if s/he has a caseload) for the categories that follow: (please enter numeric values)	
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QUESTION: 15a. Please give the full time equivalent (FTE) number of:	
i) QTVI with mandatory qualification (MQ) (VI)	5.4
ii) In training for MQ (VI)	0
iii) Qualified teachers without MQ (VI) who will begin training within 2 years	0
iv) Qualified teachers without MQ (VI) not in or due to begin training within 2 years	0
v) QTMSI with MQ (MSI)	0
vi) QTVI and QTMSI MQ (holds both qualifications)	0
vii) QTVI vacancies currently advertised	0

viii) QTVI vacancies – advertised but no suitable applicants	0
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QUESTION: 15b. Please give the total number of posts (headcount) for:	
i) QTVI with mandatory qualification (MQ) (VI)	6
ii) In training for MQ (VI)	0
iii) Qualified teachers without MQ (VI) who will begin training within 2 years	0
iv) Qualified teachers without MQ (VI) not in or due to begin training within 2 years	0
v) QTMSI with MQ (MSI)	0
vi) QTVI and QTMSI MQ (holds both qualifications)	0
vii) QTVI vacancies currently advertised	0
viii) QTVI vacancies – advertised but no suitable applicants	0

QUESTION: 15c. Please give the total number of posts that are temporary contracts (not permanent roles) for:	
i) QTVI with mandatory qualification (MQ) (VI)	0
ii) In training for MQ (VI)	0
iii) Qualified teachers without MQ (VI) who will begin training within 2 years	0
iv) Qualified teachers without MQ (VI) not in or due to begin training within 2 years	0
v) QTMSI with MQ (MSI)	0
vi) QTVI and QTMSI MQ (holds both qualifications)	0
vii) QTVI vacancies currently advertised	0
viii) QTVI vacancies – advertised but no suitable applicants	0

QUESTION: 16. What is the average time from referral to VI service and initial visit? (please give estimation if exact time is unknown) (number of weeks)	2 weeks average
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QUESTION: 17. Please give details of the FTE of any other staff employed by the VI service by category (not already included in question 15). This includes staff who are employed directly, externally commissioned or bought in from another team within the LA: (please enter numeric values) (please do not include mobility and habilitation officers)	
i) Resource technicians FTE (for production of accessible materials)	2.4
ii) ICT support technicians FTE	

iii) Dedicated early years staff FTE	
iv) Family support workers FTE	
v) Admin/secretarial FTE	1.0
vi) Teaching Assistants	0.8
vii) Other role FTE	Touch typist 0.2
viii) Details of other role(s) if applicable (free text)	N/A

QUESTION: 18a. Please give the numbers of teaching assistants (TAs) in your LA who are providing support to pupils with vision impairment, by employment arrangement as listed below (this includes service and school-based staff where known): (please enter numeric values)	
i) Number employed and recruited directly by VI service – centrally based/peripatetic	0
ii) Number employed and recruited directly by VI service – school-based	0
iii) Number employed and recruited directly by schools and supported by VI service	5
iv) Number employed and recruited directly by schools with no involvement from VI service	0
v) Number employed with other arrangement	
vi) Other arrangement (please give details, free text)	Not including individual support staff numbers in Special Schools

QUESTION 18b. Please indicate if the service is aware that TAs are employed by schools but information on them is not retained and/or the service is aware of other TAs that the service does not hold information on: (Please indicate 'yes' if this applies)	
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1.1.5 Section 5: Redress	
QUESTION 19a. How many complaints about the VI service have entered the local authority's formal complaints process? If none have entered the formal process, please enter '0' (number)	0
QUESTION 19b. If you have any additional information or points to add around the complaints recording process or figures, please state here: (free text)	0

1.1.6 Section 6: Registers	
QUESTION: 20. Who in the LA holds the vision impairment register for children and young people who are registered sight	

impaired or severely sight impaired? (please indicate only one option with an 'x')	
i) Social care sensory team	
ii) Social care children's team	X
iii) Local society for blind people/sight loss society	
iv) Other	
v) If other, please give details (free text)	

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If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours sincerely

Project Support & Operational Finance Officer