



**Information Governance Team**

Postal Address:  
Coventry City Council  
PO Box 15  
Council House  
Coventry  
CV1 5RR

[www.coventry.gov.uk](http://www.coventry.gov.uk)

E-mail: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

Phone: 024 7697 5408

18 October 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI452859772**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Learning disability and autism services.

You have requested the following information:

**1. The average (arithmetic mean in £ and pence) hourly rate you pay for externally provided learning disability and autism services (not your in-house services) for each of the service types as follows:**

**a. Residential homes (including profound and multiple learning disability (PMLD) services and respite care)**

Weekly rate: £1,756

**b. Supported living**

Hourly rate: £16.40

**c. Day services**

Weekly rate (if hourly is N/A): Please see below:

Day opportunities framework rates:

Lot B1 – Community Peer Support Networks – low £14.75

Lot B2 – Supported Day Opportunities – low/medium £6.67  
Lot B2 – Supported Day Opportunities – medium £15.06  
Lot B2 – Supported Day Opportunities – high £15.55  
Lot B2 – Supported Day Opportunities – high £16.75  
Lot B3 – Complex Day Opportunities – high £15.55  
Lot B3 – Complex Day Opportunities – high £16.65

These original rates would have been subject to the inflationary uplifts detailed below in 2c.

#### **d. Domiciliary care**

In regards to weekly rates, it is confirmed that the Council does hold information pursuant to your request. However, it is our view that the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 43(2) – Commercially Sensitive Information. Section 43(2) exempts information from disclosure where disclosure of that information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity).

It is the Council's position that the third-party providers and its own commercial interests would be prejudiced and/or would be likely to be prejudiced by the disclosure of the requested information as there is only one provider.

Once the information is disclosed this means that it will be in the public domain, and it could not only be used by the requester but also any other providers in a similar market.

Arguments in favour of disclosure.

- Promote accountability and transparency for the Council's decisions and in its spending of public money.
- Assist the public to understand and challenge our decisions.
- Inform the public of the activities carried out on their behalf, allowing for more user involvement and collaborative decision making.
- Enable the public to better scrutinise the public monies spent

Arguments against disclosure.

- There is a public interest in allowing public authorities to withhold information which if disclosed, would reduce providers' ability to compete in a commercial environment.
- The successful providers operate in a competitive market. If prejudicing the commercial interests of the successful providers in the market would distort competition in that market, this would not be in the public interest.
- Disclosure of information may cause unwarranted reputational damage or loss of confidence in the Council.
- Revealing information such as a pricing mechanism can be detrimental to a provider's commercial interest. If an organisation has knowledge of a provider's business model, it can exploit this for its own commercial interest. This would also have a detrimental impact on the Council on other contracts and procurements by distorting the market, for the reasons stated above.

Having considered the arguments for and against disclosure, the Council has decided that the public interest in this case is best served by maintaining the exemption under section 43(2) FOIA

and by not disclosing the information requested.

The decision to withhold the information requested is therefore upheld on the basis that Section 43(2) in relation to commercially sensitive information has been applied correctly.

**2. The average (arithmetic mean as a percentage) annual fee uplift (inflationary uplift) you have implemented for each of the last five years (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022) for externally provided learning disability and autism services (not your in-house services) for each of the service types as follows:**

**a. Residential homes (including profound and multiple learning disability (PMLD) services and respite care**

2018: 0  
2019: 0  
2020: 0  
2021: 1.5%  
2022: 5.5%

**b. Supported living**

2018: 0  
2019: 0  
2020: 0  
2021: 25p per hour or 1.6 for non- hourly rates.  
2022: 95p per hour or 5.5% for non-hourly rates.

**c. Day services**

2018: 0  
2019: 0  
2020: 0  
2021: 25p per hour or 1.6 for non- hourly rates.  
2022: 95p per hour or 5.5% for non-hourly rates.

**d. Domiciliary care – Home Support**

2018/19: 33p per hour  
2019/20: 47p per hour  
2020/21: 53p per hour  
2021/22: 25p per hour  
2022/23: 95p per hour

For those years where no inflationary increase was offered, representation from providers with concerns around market sustainability were considered on a case-by-case basis.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can

also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

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](mailto: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 [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

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

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**