

#### **Information Governance Team**

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI580543208

Thank you for your request for information relating to 18+ Unstaffed Semi-Independent Accommodation.

You have requested the following information:

I am writing to make a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act for access to the following information:

Please Note: The following questions are about care leavers (Aged 18 – 21) placed in supported accommodation who receiving floating support, these young people come under the Leaving Care Act 2000.

1. Who are the currently supported accommodation providers you use for 18+ floating support & accommodation?

Coventry has block contracts in place with two providers Horizon Care Ltd and Elysian Field Ltd who supply floating support to young people who move to their own tenancy post 18. This support is usually for 12 weeks at 3 hours per week.

2. What provider out of your current list of supported accommodation providers has the majority of your care leavers?

Horizon Care Ltd.

3. What is the minimum support hours L.A requirement for 18-21 care leavers in supported accommodation? For example, a min of 2 hours.

The number of support hours is dependent of the needs of the young person, however the usual minimum is five hours per week.

- **4.** What is the current minimum cost L.A. pays for 18+ floating accommodations? (Accommodation Only) for example, £500PW per placement depending on support needs. Coventry has shared accommodation for 18+ young people who have no recourse to public funds. The cost of this is £39.95 per night per young person. Young people 18+ who are tenancy ready remain in supported accommodation until they can secure move on accommodation at an average cost of £600 per week per young person including 5 hrs per week support.
- **5.** How many service users were placed with your L.A between the years 2022 2023? Following careful consideration, the information about looked after children and care leavers requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Department for Education website, please use the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-looked-after-children

#### 6. What are the practical postcodes your L.A placements team require for 18+ service users?

There are no specific postcodes for 18+ service users. Most service users like to be placed near the city centre, within Coventry.

# 7. What are the current issues your L. A's placement team face when it comes to placing 18+ service users in supported accommodation?

The majority of care leavers move from supported accommodation around the age of 18 years and 3 months into social housing. For those young people with no recourse to public funds the challenge is securing supported accommodation the young people can remain in post 18, with no support at LHA rate.

# 8. What is the placements teams' budget per week for 18+ placements? For example, £620PW per placement including 3 support hours.

All young people 18+ move into their own tenancy unless they have no recourse to public funds or have needs that requires them to have a further period post 18 years of age in semi supported accommodation. For these young people Housing and Homeless provide accommodation with St Basils. The costings reflect the level of support the care leaver requires.

## 9. What is the procedure for your L.A if a provider wishes to join both on-tender & off-tender providers list?

All tenders are advertised and business can register via: www.csw-jets.co.uk

10. What are the main KPI's (key performance indicators) your L.A placements team use to separate a good semi-independent service to a bad one specifically for 18+ service users? All tenders by children's services are based around KPIs for 16/17-year-olds. The main KPIs for semi-independent service are: % of Young People who are not NEET, % of Young People who have moved to independence in line with their care plan, % of unplanned endings experienced by Young People placed in accommodation, % of Young People who have moved to independence

## 11. What are the main factors your L.A Placements team use to ascertain whether a placement / provider is a good match for 18+ service users?

Placement providers are assessed that they are a good match for young people to ensure they have policies and procedure in place to house in accommodation suitable for their needs, supported to maintain their accommodation appropriately, to feel safe and are protected from harm, engage in education, employment and training, supported to live healthier lives, be equipped with the skills necessary to live independently, be supported to prevent homelessness/reoccurrence of homelessness, be supported to build appropriate & positive relationships and links to their local communities, be moved on in a planned manner, without reoccurrence of homelessness.

## 12. What is the L.A's budget for support hours specifically per hour for 18+ service users? For example £21.50 per additional support hour.

Childrens Services only commission services for 18+, whilst they are securing their own tenancy the average support hour cost are between £15 and £30 per hour.

### 13. What type of accommodation is needed but in short supply for your L.A placements team? I.e. studio's, shared, 2 bed flats etc.

Providers can secure 18+ accommodation for those with no recourse to public fund, the accommodation type is normally 4 to 6 beds shared with a small amount of solo. Young people aged 18+ who are tenancy ready are unable to find private rented accommodation at a LHA rate or affordable rate.

### 14. What is the L.A placements team budget per week for the following accommodation: Studio, 1 bed Flat, 2 bed flat, Shared Accommodation.

The average rate for 16/17 including those young people up to the age of 18 years and 3 months is: Solo £457, Shared £490 per week per young person including 5 hrs per week support. The average cost for 18+ shared property for those young people with no recourse to public funds is £252 per week per young person.

#### 15. When does the L.A plan to publish their next tender for 18+ placements? Children's services do not commission services for 18+

16. What is L.A's standard procedure before placing an 18+ service user with a provider for the first time? Who are the current providers you use for 18+ unstaffed accommodation? Young adults transitioning from care (aged 18-21) who are deemed ready for independent living undergo an assessment and may move into their own accommodations with floating support, provided by their current accommodation provider. These providers, such as Horizon Care and Elysian Field, hold block contracts with Coventry Children's Services. Those not considered ready for independent living at 18+ are directed to approved temporary supported exempt accommodation within the city. These accommodations, including facilities like St Basil's, Foyer, and the YMCA, undergo quality checks to ensure suitability for care leavers. Upon readiness for independent tenancy, they receive floating support through the block contracts.

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: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> 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: <a href="mailto:infoqov@coventry.gov.uk">infoqov@coventry.gov.uk</a>

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 <a href="mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk">icocasework@ico.org.uk</a>.

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

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**