



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI619689508

Thank you for your request for information relating to Spend on Profit Making Providers of SEND education (4-19) and fostering, children's home.

You have requested the following information:

I'm looking to ascertain how much money is spent on profit making organisations in the areas of 4-19 SEND education and (separately) fostering, children's home or secure accommodation placements.

1. Please confirm whether you pay Cambian Group and/or Witherslack Group for services in SEND education (4-19) and/or fostering, children's home or secure accommodation placements. This can be a simple Yes/No answer for each organisation. Please also detail the number of children and young people, ideally divided by each organisation and by SEND education (4-19) and/or fostering, children's home or secure accommodation placements. If this is too sensitive/onerous, please simply break the number down by number of children and young people receiving SEND education (4-19) and/or fostering, children's home or secure accommodation placements

2. Please detail the amount of money spent in the last two financial years with for profit providers of SEND education (4-19) and fostering, children's home or secure accommodation placements. Please provide this in a spreadsheet split out between SEND and education and fostering, children's home or secure accommodation. If this is too onerous, I will accept one year's spend

3. If any of the above is too onerous, I will settle for confirmation of whether the authority uses Cambian Group and/or Witherslack Group and an overall figure for spend on all for profit providers of all of the services outlined above.

With regards to SEND Education:

2022/2023 Financial Year

We advise that Cambian was not used for SEND Education

Witherslack:

Financial year spend – £483,152

Number of pupils - 8

2023/2024 Financial Year

We advise that Cambian was not used for SEND Education

Witherslack: Financial year spend – £576,712

Number of pupils - 7

Please note that we are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act that we do not record whether providers are “for profit.”

With regards to Fostering, Children's homes and Secure Accommodation, Questions 1 and 2 will take exceed 18 hours to collate due to the way that the information is held (i.e. in a non-reportable format). In answer to Question 3, the information you 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 Council website, please use the following link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/budgets-spending/transparency>

The spending data will provide details for all providers.

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

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.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance