



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI633353410

Thank you for your request for information relating to Adult social care (under 65s) spending.

You have requested the following information:

1. What is the total amount your local authority spends on supporting adults with disabilities in residential social care and supported living settings in (a) 2019-20 (b) 2020-21 (c) 2021-22 (d) 2022-23 and (e) 2023-24? Please provide these figures for the financial year and exclude care homes for the elderly in your response. If this specific level of detail is not possible, please provide the spending for adults in residential social care and supported living settings aged 18-64.

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 NHS website, please use the following link:

Adult Social Care Finance Report (ASC-FR):

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/adult-social-care-activity-and-finance-report>.

Please note the 2023/24 data is not available currently however it will be accessible in the final quarter of 2024.

2. Please provide a breakdown of the annual cost for each provider, and whether they are private or local-authority run. If this is not possible, please provide the value of the top 3 most expensive contracts with private providers. We're unable to provide this (commercially sensitive and too time consuming) but I suggest contacting Procurement or Adult Commissioning who may be able to provide annual contract values.

It is confirmed that the Council does hold this information 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.

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.

To assist, the Council publishes contract values on the Contracts Register. Please use the following link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/contractsregister>

3. Please provide a snapshot of the number of adults with disabilities that are being or have been cared for in privately-run residential or supported living accommodation (or as per (1), adults in residential social care and supported living settings aged 18-64) on (a) 31 March 2020 (b) 31 March 2021 (c) 31 March 2022 (d) 31 March 2023 and (e) 31 March 2024?

(a) 31 March 2020: (Residential 203 / Supported Living 151)

(b) 31 March 2021: (Residential 223 / Supported Living 179)

(c) 31 March 2022: (Residential 247 / Supported Living 200)

(d) 31 March 2023: (Residential 256 / Supported Living 267)

(e) 31 March 2024: (Residential 256 / Supported Living 322)

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