

5 December 2013

Mr M Hutchins
By email

Strategic Support

Council Offices
Market Street Newbury
Berkshire RG14 5LD

Our Ref: Fol/2013/982

Your Ref:

Please ask for: Sue Broughton

Direct Line: 01635 519747

e-mail: scbroughton@westberks.gov.uk

Dear Mr Hutchins

Request for Information: Funding for Social Care

Q.1 In the Council's Financial Report for 2012-2013 it was stated that the income (charges) for Adult Social Care was £9,653,000. How much of this income came from charging for Non Residential Social Care and how much income came from charging for Residential Care?

£2,494,203.70 was for non residential care

£7,158,796.30 was for residential care and meals

Q.2 What was the total amount of users of Non Residential Adult Social Care services who paid a charge to the council (for/towards) the service they received?

The work involved in establish this information, week on week, together with the work already involved in answering this request, would greatly exceed 18 hours of staff time and is therefore exempt under the provisions of S12 (appropriate Limit) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and a copy of the exemption is attached. However, we can confirm that there is an average 618 non residential clients per invoice run

Q.3 What was the total amount of Disability Related Expenditure allowed by the council that was offset against users of Non Residential Adult Social Care services deemed disposable income in the financial period 2012-2013?

This varies week by week, and again, the work involved in establish this information, week on week, together with the work already involved in answering this request, would greatly exceed 18 hours of staff time and is therefore exempt under the provisions of S12 (appropriate Limit) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and a copy of the exemption is attached. However, we can provide a snapshot for one week of £16,434.81.

Q.4 How many people deemed eligible to receive Non Residential Adult Social Care services (i.e. were assessed as being in critical need and had less than £23,250 in savings) did not take up the offer of having a service provided for them, because they said they could not afford to pay their assessed charge?

We do not collect these figures and therefore hold no recorded information we can provide.

Q.5 How many appeal's did the Council receive from users of Non Residential Adult Social Care services in the financial period 2012-2013 specifically relating to the Disability Related Expenditure they have been allowed when financially accessed?
[15 Appeals](#)

Q.6 How does the total figure in Q.5 relate to totals in years: 2008/2009, 2009/2010; 2010/2011& 2011/2012?

[2008/09 - 0 appeals, 2009/10 – 0 appeals, 2010/11 – 1 appeal, 2011/12 - 1 appeal](#)

Q.7 Would the Council be prepared to set up a Working Group consisting of Non Residential Adult Social Care Service Users, their representatives and relevant Officers and elected Members of the Council with a remit to review the Council's Policy on Disability Related Expenditure re Non Residential Adult Social Care service financial assessments and seek ways of making the council's policy fairer, easier to understand and more transparent?

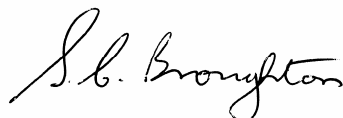
[Yes – a meeting was offered following the West Berkshire Independent Living Network meeting earlier this year](#)

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you may ask for an internal review. Please explain fully your reasons for requesting a review. You should contact David Lowe, Scrutiny & Partnerships Manager, Strategic Support, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury RG14 5LD, email dlowe@westberks.gov.uk if you wish to request a review. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely



Sue Broughton
Information Management Officer

12 Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

(2) Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit.

(3) In subsections (1) and (2) “the appropriate limit” means such amount as may be prescribed, and different amounts may be prescribed in relation to different cases.

(4) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that, in such circumstances as may be prescribed, where two or more requests for information are made to a public authority—

(a) by one person, or

(b) by different persons who appear to the public authority to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign,

the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests is to be taken to be the estimated total cost of complying with all of them.

(5) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for the purposes of this section as to the costs to be estimated and as to the manner in which they are to be estimated.