

Freedom of Information Request - 3757

Birmingham City Council is undertaking a review of Learning Disability Residential Care provision for service users/residents funded by Birmingham City Council/Birmingham City Council Social Services. In correspondence from the Council to providers dated from August 2009 providers were informed that the purpose of the review is to a) review the current contract b) to scrutinise high cost placements. The project is lead managed by Mr Simon Fenton.

1. A list of (by name) all 85 providers that are being reviewed under this initiative

Please see table attached

2. The number of placements being reviewed by the Joint Commissioning Team at each of the 85 providers (on a provider by provider basis)

Please see table attached

3. The annual/weekly value (In Sterling Pounds) of each of the placements being reviewed at each of the 85 providers (on a provider by provider basis).

Please see letter on possible exemption and public interest test on individual case data

Weekly Value: £440, 558
Annual Value: £22, 970, 690

4. The annualised value of price reductions initially proposed (this proposal would have been made after a care management review and after the care management review has informed the care funding calculator) by the joint commissioning team to each provider for each of the placements with them being reviewed (on a provider by provider basis on an i)absolute and ii)percentage basis).

No price reductions were initially proposed for provider placements as any reductions would be based on applying the Care Funding Calculator to determine an indicative placement costing based on level of support needs and non care elements of a residential care package.

5. Where agreement has been reached with a Provider, on a Provider by Provider basis, the annual/weekly value of price reductions formally agreed (after negotiation – where negotiation was necessary or otherwise) for each placement reviewed on an i)absolute and ii)percentage basis for each placement.

Please see table attached

6. Where agreement has not been reached as at 13 January 2010, but negotiations are ongoing, the reasons that the provider has not agreed with the Joint Commissioning Teams assessment of the cost of the placement (on a provider by provider basis for each placement reviewed at that provider).

Please see table attached

7. On how many occasions, and to which providers (provider by provider for each placement under review with that provider) has the Joint Commissioning Team informed the provider that if they do not agree to the price reductions proposed they may consider moving residents from the home (or words to the same effect)

The Joint Commissioning Team has consistently communicated to providers the need to ensure placements offer the Council continued best value. To date we have not reached a point where the best and final price offered is rejected outright by a provider thus requiring the arrangement of alternative provision for service users, however this is not ruled out as a possibility in some instances. Any change would be based on working with individuals and families to ensure any alternative provision was appropriate to meet their needs.

8. On how many occasions, and with which providers (provider by provider for each placement under review with that provider) has the Joint Commissioning Team informed the provider that if they do not agree to the price reductions proposed a) the provider is welcome to inform the Joint Commissioning Team that it cannot provide the service (or words to the same effect)

No providers have served notice on placements as a result of this initiative to date.

9. A copy of the contract and the pricing framework that you are asking providers with spot contracts above the threshold of £1149 to enter into as part of or following your reviews of the highest cost residential care placements of adults with learning disabilities

Contract packs containing the Adults with Specific Needs contract including pricing framework are available from the Contracts Team on tel. 0121 675 6632

10. Could you please provide full copies (only if required by law should parts of these minutes be blacked out) your minutes and notes of meetings with Caretech to discuss and negotiate costings and care requirements as part of the work to review highest cost residential care placements

Please see letter on possible exemption and public interest test

11. Could you please provide full copies (only if required by law should parts of these minutes be blacked out) your minutes and notes of meetings with Autism West Midlands to discuss and negotiate costings and care requirements as part of the work to review highest cost residential care placements

Please see letter on possible exemption and public interest test

12. Could you please provide full copies (only if required by law should parts of these minutes be blacked out) your minutes and notes of meetings with Jaffray Care to discuss and negotiate costings and care requirements as part of the work to review highest cost residential care placements

Please see letter on possible exemption and public interest test

13. Could you please provide full copies (only if required by law should parts of these minutes be blacked out) your minutes and notes of meetings with Robinia Care to discuss and negotiate costings and care requirements as part of the work to review highest cost residential care placements

No provider meeting to date

14. Could you please provide full copies (only if required by law should parts of these minutes be blacked out) your minutes and notes of meetings with Craegmoor to discuss and negotiate costings and care requirements as part of the work to review highest cost residential care placements

Please see letter on possible exemption and public interest test

15. Could you please provide full copies (only if required by law should parts of these minutes be blacked out) your minutes and notes of meetings with Voyage to discuss and negotiate

costings and care requirements as part of the work to review highest cost residential care placements

Please see letter on possible exemption and public interest test

16. a) Could you please provide a list of providers with whom communication (written or verbal) has taken place to discuss that providers' ability and/or willingness to provide residential care to service users that the Joint Commissioning Team (JCT) may move from another provider as part of the review of the highest cost residential care placements for whatever reason.

b) Please provide minutes and notes of all communications at 16 a) above

Residential providers are contacted on a regular basis by the Contracts Team to identify vacancies within the residential sector; this information is shared with Care Managers so they are aware of available vacancies when required.