

Our ref: **NIC-49039-WL556**

7th June 2010

Dear Mr Bacon,

Re: Information Request – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I can confirm that the NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care has considered your query dated the 8th April 2010.

"I would like to obtain a copy of all the information returned by Councils with Adult Social Services Responsibilities (CASSRs) as part of the Information and Guidance on the Grant Funded Services collection (GFS1).

For each local authority I would like to have the information contained in columns A-P (as arranged in proforma V1.4). These are all the columns except the 'Comments'. Please also include the local authority code for each scheme.

Please provide this information for the most recent period available.

If there is a choice between a 'cleaned' and 'raw' set of the information I would prefer the former."

Our letter of 7th May 2010 informed you that the NHS Information Centre was considering if an exemption applied to some of the information requested.

I can confirm that the information requested is exempt under section 43(2) Commercial Interests and section 44(1) (a)&(b) Prohibition on Disclosure. A Prejudice Test and Public Interest Test have been carried out which found that disclosure is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the voluntary organisations supplying the initial data to Local Authorities. This information is commercially sensitive as voluntary organisations are in competition with each other and this information would identify those that are in vulnerable position financially.

The information also contains sensitive information, as defined by the Data protection Act, and small numbers which could lead to the identification of individuals, as some local authorities have submitted data for schemes which have between 1-5 users. This would breach Article 8 of the Human Rights Act and the European Convention on Human Rights.

In our earlier letter we indicated what level of information we can provide, if you now require this please let us know via the contact details above and we will endeavour to provide this to you as soon as possible.

I hope that this response meets your request for information. However, if you are not satisfied, you may request a review from a suitably qualified member of staff not involved in the initial query, via the xxxxxxxx@xx.xxx.xx email address or by post at the above postal address.

I will assume that your request to the organisation is now closed.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Shippen
Higher Information Governance Officer

Further information about your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act is available from the Information Commissioner's Office, Wilmslow, Cheshire, and on The Information Commissioner's website www.ico.gov.uk.