

# Freedom of Information Act / Environmental Information Regulations Request

Reference: ECC-039741-13

Response: 20 December 2013

**Who is the main contact/contacts for commissioning services within Children's social care?**

**Who is the main contact/contacts for commissioning services within Adult's social care?**

The commissioning of Social Care for Essex County Council is the responsibility of Commissioning Support. Commissioning Support can be contacted at [contact@essex.gov.uk](mailto:contact@essex.gov.uk) or on our general enquiry number 01245 430 430.

**Do you currently use an IT system to support your strategic commissioning and contract management? If yes to either please name the system(s) and details of costs?**

This part of the response is both for Children's and Adult Social Care.

Essex County Council uses the Ariba online supplier portal at <http://ecc.supplier.ariba.com> to support strategic commissioning and contract management. The cost of this system is £745k over 5 years so approximately £150k per year.

**How many providers do you contract with for Children's services and are they internal/external?**

The top suppliers by turnover are predominantly residential schools and fostering suppliers.

Circa 80% of Children services external spend was with circa 812 suppliers, the tail 20% of spend was with circa 5580 suppliers which are predominately individual foster carers.

**Do you have a performance management framework to monitor the performance of providers?**

This part of the response is both for Children's and Adult Social Care.

Yes, Essex County Council does have a performance management framework to monitor the performance of providers.

**How many providers do you contract with for Adult's services and are they internal/external?**

Essex County Council Adult Social Care currently has 662 providers that we contract with. They are all external.

**Do you currently use micro procurement (also known as micro commissioning or mini tendering) to arrange services?**

Mini tenders are in used in some areas of the service; where framework agreements are in place.

**Do you use brokerage or commissioning teams or do social workers/care managers contact providers direct?**

Commissioning Support and Service Placement Team manage all contact with providers in relation to securing services for the Authority.

**Your Right to Know**

Information Services

Essex County Council

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