

27 October 2017

Education Rights Alliance
request-438532-
2c56609e@whatdotheyknow.com

Information Governance Team
Corporate Office
County Hall
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

Our ref: ENQ08064 REQ001

Dear Education Rights Alliance

Freedom of Information Request – EHC assessments and social care advice and information

Thank you for your request for information dated 13 October 2017, in which you asked for the following information:

Regulation 6 Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 sets out the advice that the Local Authority must secure as part of an Education Health and Care Needs Assessment. Part of that Regulation requires that advice and information in relation to social care is obtained during the EHC Needs Assessment.

Please advise the following with regard to EHC Needs Assessments from Sep 2014 to date, on a year by year basis. Do include new applications and transfers from Statement of SEN and LDA.

- 1. How many EHC Needs Assessments were carried out?*
- 2. How many of (1) included a social care assessment?*
- 3. How many of (2) were new to social care?*
- 4. Where a social care assessment was NOT carried out as part of the EHC Needs Assessment for a child or young person NEW to social care, what social care advice was provided?*

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act') The Council is obliged to:

- Let you know whether we hold the information you have requested
- Provide you with the requested information, if held, (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

Section 12 of the Act removes the above obligation if the cost of complying would exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 working hours in determining whether the Council holds the requested information. This also includes locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the information in the level of detail that you request it would require a manual inspection of approximately 2,500 records, and therefore we estimate that to comply with

your request would exceed the appropriate limit, which means your request will not be processed further.

You may wish to refine your request by broadening its scope, for example, you could omit questions two to four and focus upon the overall number of EHC Needs Assessments.

If you are dissatisfied with the above response you have a right to request a review of your request for information. Details of the complaints and review procedure are appended to this letter.

Yours sincerely

David Sausins
Information Governance Officer

Direct line: 01249 709558
Email: FOI@wiltshire.gov.uk

Freedom of Information Complaints & Review Procedure

Any person who has requested information from Wiltshire Council, which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act is entitled to complain and request an internal review of their request for information if they are dissatisfied with the response they have received.

Requests for review of Freedom of Information requests must be made in writing (includes email) to:

Freedom of Information Lead
County Hall
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

Email FOI@wiltshire.gov.uk

Please include the reference number, date of your request and details of why the review is being requested. Requests for review should be brought to the attention of the Freedom of Information Lead within 40 calendar days of the response to the original request.

Any request for review will be acknowledged in writing confirming the reasons for the review. The Freedom of Information Lead will allocate the review to someone who is independent of the original decision. The person conducting the review will set a target date for a response with the intention to complete the review within 20 working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 working days.

The reviewer will conduct a full review of the handling of the request for information and of decisions taken, including decisions taken about where the public interest lies in respect of exempt information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account any matters raised by the requestor.

On completion of the review the reviewer will reply to the requestor with the result of the review. If the requestor is still dissatisfied following the review they should contact the Information Commissioner to appeal the decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted using the following details:

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate)
01625 545 745 (national rate)

Email: casework@ico.org.uk