



## Children's Services Early Help and Schools

Sandra Bowness  
Assistant Director

Number One Riverside, Smith Street,  
Rochdale, OL16 1XU

Phone: 01706 647474  
[www.rochdale.gov.uk](http://www.rochdale.gov.uk)

Emailed to; Nikki Thompson  
[request-575139-1ecf9788@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-575139-1ecf9788@whatdotheyknow.com)

Your Ref: FOI INT 393296-B6K7C6  
Enquiries to: FOI Team  
E-mail: [foi@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:foi@rochdale.gov.uk)  
Date: 06.06.19

Dear Nikki Thompson,

### RE: - REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

In response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act received by Rochdale Council on 08.05.19, please see below responses in relation to your enquires below:

Q1. Who delivers OT support for children as part of the EHCP process for the LEA? For example, is this the local NHS trust, a private organisation or a combination of both.

A1. We have a mixed offer of OT support:

- A children services OT team that sit within the Children with Addition Needs Service alongside our EHCP team and they give advice in terms of home situation and support needed.
- An OT within our Physical disability team that works in school setting who inputs into the RANS advice
- OT team via the Pennine Care NHS
- A virtual multi agency team including OT hours called RCAT that provide and support the complex assisted communication aid

Please note that the LA Children Service OT is located one day a week with health colleagues together they manage all requests for equipment through a single contract.

Q2. EHCP OT advice

- The number of requests for OT advice to inform an EHCP that you have commissioned in the past 12 months
- The number of these requests still outstanding
- The average time between requesting the EHCP OT advice and the report being returned to the LEA over the past 12 months.

A2. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Rochdale Borough Council has a duty to supply any information on request, unless there is an exemption.

Although this information is held, we are unable to supply it to you as it is estimated to take more than 18 hours to determine, locate, retrieve and extract the information. This request is therefore refused under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

This section relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information under Section 1(1) of the Act where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the

information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations.

Therefore because our data base does not differentiate between types of advice, we would need to read every individual EHCP to answer your question and given this relates so 355 new requests, this would fall outside of the 18 hours duration.

#### Q3. Reviews

- Number of outstanding EHCP termly / annual / half termly reviews under EHCP provision that are waiting to be completed.

- The average wait time for these reviews to take place.

A3. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Rochdale Borough Council has a duty to supply any information on request, unless there is an exemption.

Although this information is held, we are unable to supply it to you as it is estimated to take more than 18 hours to determine, locate, retrieve and extract the information. This request is therefore refused under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

This section relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information under Section 1(1) of the Act where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations.

Therefore, we would need to manually check 1753 reviews which would fall outside of the 18 hours duration.

#### Q4. Out of Area students

The number of children and young people who are attending an education establishment out of area and who's EHCP OT requirements are not able to be met by their education establishments locality OT service.

A4. 0

#### Q5. Intervention

Number of approved occupational therapy treatment hours on EHCP plans for students in the calendar year 2018-19 that are not currently being provided.

A5. 0

Q6. Is there a lack of capacity within the locality OT team to provide the required volume of EHCP OT intervention required by the LEA?

A6. Currently our current health service is being re tendered it is therefore not possible to answer this question. The current pressure on the OT teams has been identified within the retendering process

Q7. Please provide the name, email and phone number of the manager responsible for commissioning OT provision on behalf of the LEA.

A7. Lead is Kylie Thornton, Integrated Commissioning Programme Manager (Children's Services) Joint Commissioning  
kylie.thornton@rochdale.gov.uk / 01706 925163.

We feel that we have fulfilled your Freedom of Information request. However, please see the details on our [website](#) if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, wish to make a complaint or appeal against any decision we have made in response to your request.

Should you have any queries, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'S Bowness'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Sandra Bowness  
Assistant Director  
Early Help and Schools