

Vidya Prasad

Harrow Council
PO Box 57
Station Road, HA1 2XF
22 October 2020
Our ref: 5777952

Dear Vidya Prasad

Thank you for your request for information received on 9 September 2020.

This request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the information requested is held by Harrow Council. I have detailed below the information that is being released to you.

1. Do you provide traded services to schools in your area, or do you contract this out to another party that is outside the local authority? If so, to which?

We currently only support SIMS owned by Capita Education Services

2. Which school MIS (management information systems) providers do you hold support contracts or accreditations with, and for each MIS provider:

a) What is the nature of the current arrangement (a paid contract, an unpaid accreditation)?

Schools purchase the Annual Entitlement for their SIMS/FMS licences through us and we then pay Capita. Academies purchase their licences direct from Capita. We are not an accredited team.

b) When did the current arrangement begin and when it will finish (including any extensions)?

We do not hold the exact date as to when we had this arrangement but such licences were purchased from Capita, approximately 25 years ago. They are rolling licences and schools pay an Annual Entitlement for them each year.

c) If a paid contract, under what basis did you procure it (e.g. directly, through a framework, via OJEU procurement, other)?

All licences were purchased directly with Capita.

3. How many schools do you provide MIS support services to, and:

a) How does this break down by Primary Academies, Primary Maintained, Secondary Academies, Secondary Maintained, Other (incl. PRUs, SENs)?

We provide MIS support to 41 schools
7 Primary Academies
27 Primary Maintained
1 Secondary Academy
1 Secondary Maintained
1 Prus
3 SENs
1 Nursery

b) How does this break down by MIS provider?

They all use SIMS.

c) How has this total changed between 2018/19, 2019/20 and this year (say as at June 1st 2018 vs. June 1st 2019 vs. June 1st 2020, or any similar convenient dates)?

In June 2019 we supported 43 schools

In June 2018 we supported 47 schools

The reduction in numbers is partly due to Infant and Junior schools merging into Primaries and schools becoming Academies.

4. As part of your support to schools for each of these MIS providers, which of the following activities do you carry out (I am interested in whether the activities differ between MIS providers):

a) 1st line support -Yes

b) 2nd line support- NA

c) 3rd line support -NA

d) Implementations-NA

e) Data audits / cleansing - We offer a Healthcheck service of their database

f) Regulatory / census submissions - We support the schools with creating their Statutory returns and with uploading them to the DfE

g) Server management - We install SQL and SIMS when the schools have new servers. We also provide all upgrades and patches.

h) Main data hosting -NA

i) Data backup - We advise schools regarding back-ups.

j) User training - Yes

k) Provide templates / configuration - We help the schools with Assessment Templates and with reports.

l) Analysis of data / insight services -NA

m) Resale of the software to schools (on a commission basis) -NA

n) Hosting or arranging local user group meetings / events- As part of our SLA we run User groups, Overviews and training.

5. What was your total traded services income from schools (for all services) in 2018/19 and 2019/20?

2018-19- £3,624,259.64

2019-20- £3,512,821.41

6. What was your total traded service income for providing schools with SMIS support for 2018/19 and 2019/20?

2018-19-£508,328.52

2019-20-£464,569.30

7. What is the current amount of de-delegated funding that you levy on LA-maintained schools (either in total, on a per school level, or a per learner level - whichever is easiest)?

£1.43 per pupil for maintained schools only for staff supply cover for trade union duties

8. What software or digital tools (learning, safeguarding or admin) do you provide to schools under the de-delegated funding allocation?

NA

If you are dissatisfied with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request an internal review of Harrow Council's decision by writing to:

Peter Singh, Head of Service-Adults Market Management
Harrow Council
Civic Centre,
Station Road
Harrow
HA1 2XF

Email: peter.singh@harrow.gov.uk

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Website: <http://www.ico.org.uk/complaints/handling/complain>

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours faithfully

Mohammed Baksh
Social Care Complaints and FOI Officer