

Ms Cheyanne Grant Email: accesstoinfo@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Our ref: 2602866 Date: 16 July 2019

Dear Ms Grant

#### Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

You have been assigned a request for information to action. The request is:

### Can you please provide the information detailed below

- Q1. List the number of Companies used for Semi Independent Living Services and or Supported Living
- A1. List of Companies (just those where the customers supported by Adult Social Care are between 18 and 25:

Companies
Adepta
Affinity Trust
Ambito
Brookdale
Exclusive Care
Home Farm Trust
Kisimul School
Lillibet Court Care Ltd
Macintyre
Mencap
Mentaur
North Herts College
Precious Homes
UK Care (Special Needs) Ltd
Unique Support (UK) Ltd

List of companies for Children's Services:

Central Bedfordshire Council Please reply to:

Access to Information Community Services Central Bedfordshire Council Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

Telephone: 0300 300 8301

Email: accesstoinfo@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Companies
Athena Housing & Support
IOMI
Cornerways
laspire
Preferred Living
Supporting Bright Futures
Taylor House
CBC Independent Living Team

Q2. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services For Semi Independent Living Services (24 Hour Units) For 16-17 year Olds

A2. Athena: £715.15
IOMI: £2308
Cornerways: £750
laspire: £750
Preferred Living: £750
Supporting Bright Futures: £931.66
Taylor House: £757

- Q3. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services For Semi Independent Living Services (24 Hour Units) For 18-21 year Olds
- A3. Supporting Bright Futures: £675 Athena: £516.66
- Q4. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services For Semi Independent Living Services (24 Hour Units) For 22-25 year Olds
- A4. We do not have any young people of this age in semi independent properties
- Q5. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services For Semi Independent Living Services (Non 24 Hour Units 16-17 year olds
- A5. CBC: £350
- Q6. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services For Semi Independent Living Services (Non 24 Hour Units 18-21 year olds

A6. CBC: £550 Athena: £317

- Q7. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services for Semi Independent Living Services (Non 24 Hour Units 18-21 year olds.
- A7. We do not hold this information

## Q8. What is the Rate per hour Charged for each company For Support Services For Semi- Independent Living Services (24 Hour Units)

A8. Rate per Hour for Support Service (24/7 services):
Adult Social Care Average hourly rate is £17.38
Children's Services Average hourly rate is £25

Note this is an average, not each company's individual hourly rate

This information is exempt under the following section of the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

#### 43 Commercial interests

- (1) Information is exempt information if it constitutes a trade secret.
- (2) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).
- (3) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would, or would be likely to, prejudice the interests mentioned in subsection (2).

We consider that the qualified exemption set out in Section 43 (Prejudicial to commercial interests) subsection (2) applies to the information requested. Therefore, we have decided to withhold the information.

In applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the interest in favour of disclosure.

#### Factors in favour of disclosure

The Council is aware that there is a strong public interest in transparency and endeavours to provide information whenever possible

#### Factors in favour of withholding

Whilst there is a strong public interest in transparency and this is reflected by the councils publishing of its payment to suppliers, to supply the hourly fee would be likely to create an unlevel the playing field for these organisations, the information is disclosed 'to the world' the lowest to the highest hourly charge would provide one organisation with a greater competitive advantage to the others wich would prejudice their enterprise unfairly. To disclose this information would also prejudice the organisations working relationship with these companies and potentially harm any likely future contract opportunity. This would be likely to impact on the Councils ability to procure a competitive rate to the detriment of the public purse

In all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Therefore in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a refusal to release this information.

# Q9. What is the Rate per hour Charged for each company For Support Services For Semi- Independent Living Services ( Non 24 Hour Units)

A9. Rate per Hour for Support Service (non-24 hour services):
Adult Social Care Average hourly rate is £16.73
Children's Services Average hourly rate is £25

Note this is an average, not each company's individual hourly rate. Please see A8 above regarding exemption.

- Q10 What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services For Semi Independent Living Services Mother and Baby Unit (24 Hour Units)
- A10. No children are currently placed in a mother and baby unit
- Q11. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services For Semi Independent Living Services Mother and Baby Unit (Non 24 Hour Units)
- A11. No children are currently placed in a mother and baby unit
- Q12. What is the Rate per hour Charged for each company For Support Services For Semi- Independent Living Services Mother and Baby Unit (24 Hour Units)
- A12. No children are currently placed in a mother and baby unit
- Q13. What is the Rate per hour Charged for each company For Support Services For Semi- Independent Living Services Mother and Baby Unit (Non 24 Hour Units)
- A13. No children are currently placed in a mother and baby unit
- Q14. Number of former looked after children being provided leaving care services, aged between 18-25 As at 31 March each year 2015-2018
- A14. 31/3/15: 87 31/3/16: 103 31/3/17: 06 31/3/18: 124
- Q15. List the number of Companies used to supply Accommodation and services for Kids coming out the criminal justice system.
- A15. We do not engage companies to accommodate young people upon release
- Q16. Number of LAC/ Former relevant Child >18<25 Young people who had been in the criminal justice system each year as at 31 Mar 14 each year To 31 March 18
- Q17. Number of Male LAC/ Former relevant child 18-25 who had been in the criminal justice system as at 31 March each year 2014 to 2018
- Q18. Number of Female LAC/ Former relevant child 18-25 who had been in the criminal justice system as at 31 March each year 2014 to 2018
- A16-18. The information around children who had been in the criminal justice system is recorded on the individual records of young people, and is not recorded in a reportable format.

From our preliminary assessment, we estimate that the compliance with your request would exceed the appropriate cost limit under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The prescribed cost limit for local authorities is set at £450, i.e.18 hours @ £25 per hour officer time:

12 Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit
(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

To provide the information requested it would be necessary to inspect the records of all former relevant children in the requested years. This would mean manually

checking **275 records**, taking approximately **30 minutes** per record. We estimate it will take one officer approximately **137.5 hours** to collate the requested information, which equals **£3,437.50** of cost.

Therefore in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a refusal to release this information.

- Q19. What is the weekly cost per person charged by each company used to provide Accommodation for Young people coming out the Criminal Justice system
- A19. We do not engage companies to support young people upon release
- Q20. What is the cost per hour for support for Kids coming out the Criminal justice system.
- A20. We do not engage companies to support young people upon release
- Q21. What is the Lowest Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living Non 24 Hour shared accommodation for 18+ Young People
- A21. Adult Social Care: £82

These are just customers aged 18-25 in independent sector Supported Living arrangements with and without overnight support (Non-24 hr and 24 hr). Just their weekly care and support – no property cost and management services (between the customer/tenant and their housing provider).

Children's Services: £280 per week

- Q22. What is the Highest Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living Non 24 Hour shared accommodation for 18+ young people
- A22. Adult Social Care: £3,151

These are just customers aged 18-25 in independent sector Supported Living arrangements with and without overnight support (Non-24 hr and 24 hr). Just their weekly care and support – no property cost and management services (between the customer/tenant and their housing provider).

Children's Services: £400 per week

- Q23. What is the Average Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living Non 24 Hour shared accommodation for 18+ Young people
- A23. Adult Social Care: £1,045

These are just customers aged 18-25 in independent sector Supported Living arrangements with and without overnight support (Non-24 hr and 24 hr). Just their weekly care and support – no property cost and management services (between the customer/tenant and their housing provider).

Children's Services: £315 per week

- Q24. What is the Lowest Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living 24 Hour shared accommodation for 18+ young people
- A24. Adult Social Care: £443

  These are just customers aged 18-25 in independent sector Supported Living arrangements with and without overnight support (Non-24 hr and 24 hr). Just their

weekly care and support – no property cost and management services (between the customer/tenant and their housing provider).

Children's Services: £516 per week

- Q25. What is the Highest Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living 24 Hour shared accommodation for 18+ young people
- A25. Adult Social Care: £3,541

These are just customers aged 18-25 in independent sector Supported Living arrangements with and without overnight support (Non-24 hr and 24 hr). Just their weekly care and support – no property cost and management services (between the customer/tenant and their housing provider).

Children's Services: £750 per week

- Q26. What is the Average Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living 24 Hour shared accommodation for 18+ young people.
- A26. Adult Social Care: £1,748

These are just customers aged 18-25 in independent sector Supported Living arrangements with and without overnight support (Non-24 hr and 24 hr). Just their weekly care and support – no property cost and management services (between the customer/tenant and their housing provider).

Children's Services: £633 per week

- Q27. What is the Highest Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living 24 Hour shared accommodation for 16-17 year olds
- A27. £1,000 per week
- Q28. What is the Lowest Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living 24 Hour shared accommodation for 16-17 year olds
- A28. £650 per week
- Q29. What is the Average Weekly amount paid For Semi Independent Living 24 Hour shared accommodation for 16-17 year olds
- A29. £1252 per week

Please note that if you cannot provide the figures for each company as requested above then the average for the companies providing that service can be provided instead.

Please quote the reference number 2602866 in any future communications.

If you wish to request a review of this response, please contact us either by email (accesstoinfo@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) or in writing to the reply address detailed below.

Access to Information Community Services Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk Chicksands, SG17 5TQ

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

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

Telephone: 01625 545 700

Further information on the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is available through the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <a href="https://www.ico.org.uk/">www.ico.org.uk/</a>

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Joanne Mulliner
Freedom of Information Officer