

Juliet Atkins

Dear Juliet Atkins

## Response to Request for Information

### Social care support and funding

I can confirm that the information requested is held by Wolverhampton Council. I list below the information that is being released to you.

In your request you asked for the following and for ease of reference we have provided our response in blue:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I kindly request the following information on social care support (as set out in Section 8 of the Care Act 2014) and funding for the purposes of social care support for working age adults with a learning disability in your local authority area.

Where questions refer to 'learning disability', please include individuals with 'learning disability' as their primary support reason.


1. How many working-age adults (aged 18-64) with a learning disability had the care and support hours allocated in their care package reduced in:
  - a. 2018/19 = 16
  - b. 2017/18 = 15
  - c. 2016/17 = 24
  - d. 2015/16 = 23
  - e. 2014/15 = 18

Please include in your answers both those who are part and fully local authority funded. Please include in your answer care and support hour reductions where the reduction relates to a reduction in the care worker ratio (e.g. where 1:1 hours have been changed to shared hours). Please exclude those who stopped receiving a package for the reason 'deceased'.

The answer to this question is based on only those services which are commissioned on an hourly basis such as Domiciliary Care and Direct Payments.

2. How many working-age adults (aged 18-64) with a learning disability had the monetary value of their care package reduced in:
  - a. 2018/19 = 105

City of Wolverhampton Council  
Civic Centre, St. Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton,  
WV1 1SH

 wolverhampton.gov.uk

 @WolvesCouncil

 WolverhamptonToday

b. 2017/18 = 91

c. 2016/17 = 67

d. 2015/16 = 91

e. 2014/15 = 46

Please include in your answers both those who are part and fully local authority funded. Please exclude those who stopped receiving a package for the reason 'deceased'.

3. How many working age adults (aged 18-64) had the care and support hours allocated in their care package reduced in:

a. 2018/19 = 64

b. 2017/18 = 48

c. 2016/17 = 102

d. 2015/16 = 59

e. 2014/15 = 58

Please include in your answers both those who are part and fully local authority funded. Please include in your answer care and support hour reductions where the reduction relates to a reduction in the care worker ratio (e.g. where 1:1 hours have been changed to shared hours). Please exclude those who stopped receiving a package for the reason 'deceased'.

4. How many working-age adults (aged 18-64) had the monetary value of their care package reduced in:

a. 2018/19 = 187

b. 2017/18 = 150

c. 2016/17 = 148

d. 2015/16 = 191

e. 2014/15 = 141

Please include in your answers both those who are part and fully local authority funded. Please exclude those who stopped receiving a package for the reason 'deceased'.

5. How many complaints about adult social care for people with a learning disability has the council received in the following years?

a. 2018/19

b. 2017/18

c. 2016/17

d. 2015/16

e. 2014/15

Your question for information has now been considered and the City of Wolverhampton Council is not obliged to supply the information you requested for the reasons set out below.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires City of Wolverhampton Council, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you, the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies:

In relation to your particular request, the following exemption applies:

### **Section 12 - Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit**

We can confirm that the Council holds information falling within the description specified in your request. However, Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows a public authority to refuse a request if the cost of providing the information to the applicant would exceed the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information.

The Regulations provide that the appropriate limit to be applied to requests received by local authorities is £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of work). In estimating the cost of complying with a request for information, an authority can only take into account any reasonable costs incurred in:


- (a) *Determining whether it holds the information,*
- (b) *Locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,*
- (c) *Retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information,*  
*and*
- (d) *Extracting the information from a document containing it.*

*For the purposes of the estimate the costs of performing these activities should be estimated at a rate of £25 per hour.*

The information appertaining to your request is not easily accessible and as such this information is not held as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on. To get the information would require a full scale look into all individual records. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe that the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

6. How many complaints about adult social care has the council received in the following years?
- a. 2018/19 = 152
  - b. 2017/18 = 142

City of Wolverhampton Council  
Civic Centre, St. Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton,  
WV1 1SH

 [wolverhampton.gov.uk](http://wolverhampton.gov.uk)

 @WolvesCouncil

 WolverhamptonToday

- c. 2016/17 = 275
- d. 2015/16 = 122
- e. 2014/15 = 166

7. Has the council made any cuts to the funding of social care services for adults with a learning disability in the following years? If so, for each year please tell us the how much funding has been cut by.

- a. 2018/19
- b. 2017/18
- c. 2016/17
- d. 2015/16
- e. 2014/15

City of Wolverhampton Council has a duty to meet care needs whilst also ensuring best use of public funding. The Council strategic approach places an emphasis on maximising independence to help people live healthy lives and this is reflected in the increase of supported living schemes and personal budgets. The actual expenditure on external care packages for individuals with Learning Disabilities is:

Financial Year	Expenditure (m)
2014/15	18.0
2015/16	16.8
2016/17	17.8
2017/18	19.0
2018/19	19.9

8. How many safeguarding concerns has the council received in the following years about adults with a learning disability?

- a. 2018/19 = 417
- b. 2017/18 = 378
- c. 2016/17 = 262
- d. 2015/16 = 329
- e. 2014/15 = 203

9. How many safeguarding enquiries (including, but not limited to, Section 42 enquiries) has the council received in the following years about adults with a learning disability?

- a. 2018/19 = 75
- b. 2017/18 = 60
- c. 2016/17 = 50
- d. 2015/16 = 65
- e. 2014/15 = 56

Please quote the reference number 1234605 in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Information Governance Team  
Governance  
City of Wolverhampton Council  
Civic Centre  
St. Peter's Square  
Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

Email: [foi@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:foi@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner, contact details can be found on their website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours faithfully

Malkit Sahota  
Information Governance Officer

City of Wolverhampton Council  
Civic Centre, St. Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton,  
WV1 1SH

 [wolverhampton.gov.uk](http://wolverhampton.gov.uk)

 [@WolvesCouncil](https://twitter.com/WolvesCouncil)

 [WolverhamptonToday](https://www.facebook.com/WolverhamptonToday)