

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Adult social care support



Ref No: **FOI-1920-1076**

Q1: 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
- b. 2017/18
- c. 2016/17
- d. 2015/16
- e. 2014/15

Response:

I confirm that the city council holds the information you requested.

From our preliminary assessment, we estimate that compliance with this part of your request would exceed the appropriate cost limit under the section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). The Section states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit; this is currently £450 for a local authority, this represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours in determining whether the authority holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

This information changes from day to day and it is not possible to identify how many packages increased or decreased on a rolling basis without manually checking records. This would equate to 2,681 checks for learning disabled adults aged 18-64 and a further 3,810 checks involving working aged adults who are not Learning Disabled. Each check would take at least 5 minutes equating to 540 hours of checks.

Under section 1(3) of the FOIA, a public authority need not comply with a request unless any further information reasonably required to locate the information is supplied. If a request is too broad or general in nature, then public authorities have a duty to provide advice and assistance to the applicant in order to focus the request.

If you narrow the scope of your request, we may be able to provide the information free of charge because it would cost less than the appropriate limit to do so. Any reformulated request the department receives from you will be treated as a fresh FOI request.

Q2: 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
- b. 2017/18
- c. 2016/17
- d. 2015/16
- e. 2014/15

Response:

Please see response to Q1.

Q3: How many working age adults (aged 18-64) had the care and support hours allocated in their care package reduced in:

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

Response:

Please see response to Q1.

Q4: How many working-age adults (aged 18-64) had the monetary value of their care package reduced in:

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

Response:

Please see response to Q1.

Q5: 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

Response:

a. - 16, Prior to April 2018 complaints were monitored by the Corporate Complaints Team, not in Service areas.

b-e. - Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is not held by Southampton City Council.

This is because **the information is not recorded or requested by the Council when accepting complaints from members of the public. There may be instances where such information is provided by a complainant, but any such records would be inaccurate as this is not a required field when submitting a complaint**

Q6: How many complaints about adult social care has the council received in the following years?

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

Response:

- a. 62
- b. 64
- c. 59
- d. 77
- e. 113

Q7: 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

Response:

2018/19 budget reduced by £336,800

2017/18 budget reduced by £1,064,800

2016/17 no cuts made

2015/16 no cuts made

2014/15 no cuts made

Please note:

This response gives the budgeted/funded amounts for Learning disabilities, but does not give equivalence to the final spend which may have ultimately been more than this

Q8: How many safeguarding concerns has the council received in the following years about adults with a learning disability?

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

Response:

a) 152 concerns concerning 122 people

b) 179 concerns concerning 106 people

c) 249 concerns concerning 164 people

d) 108 concerns concerning 77 people

e) 133 concerns concerning 96 people

During 2016-17 the council improved how it collected this information.

Q9: 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
- b. 2017/18
- c. 2016/17
- d. 2015/16
- e. 2014/15

Response:

- a) 414 enquiries concerning 214 people
- b) 269 enquiries concerning 177 people
- c) 295 enquiries concerning 204 people
- d) 97 enquiries concerning 74 people
- e) 113 enquiries concerning 87 people

Statement regarding disclosure of personal information

Personal information is exempt from disclosure under s.40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 unless one of the conditions set out in the General Data Protection Regulation is met. The Section, which is an absolute exemption by virtue of Section 40(3)(a)(i), states that the information is exempt if disclosure would breach any of the data protection principles. This means that the Council is under no duty to consider whether disclosure should nonetheless be made in the public interest.

With regard to its employees, the Council will generally redact the names and contact details of Council officers when providing responses to requests, although there may be instances where it is deemed there is public interest in disclosure of these details (the names of Council employees from the fifth tier of the organisation and above will generally be released).

This is in accordance with the Council's policy on Processing Requests under FOI and EIR (copy available on request).

Please note that the Council cannot guarantee the accuracy of information supplied.

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<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/council-democracy/council-data/freedom-of-information/FOI-search.aspx>

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:

Service Director – Legal and Governance
Southampton City Council
Civic Centre
SOUTHAMPTON
SO14 7LT

Email: legal@southampton.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Fax: 01625 524510
Email: casework@ico.org.uk