

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

**You asked:**

**1. Please specify the number of families resident in the local authority with disabled children between the ages of 16 and 25 that received respite care funded by the local authority in each of the last three years broken down by year**

2101/11 - 463

2011/12 - 456

2012/13 - 467

**2. Please provide a figure for the total cost of respite care for families in the local authority with disabled children between the ages of 16 and 25 met by the local authority and the average cost per family receiving respite care paid for by the council for each of the last three years broken down by year.**

2010/2011 - 505 short breaks /cost £294,415/average £29,500 per family

2011/2012 - 529 short breaks/ cost £308,407/average £28,037 per family

2012/2013 - 453 short breaks/ cost £264,099/average £22,000 per family

Plus additional specialist commissioned care of:

2010/2011 - £44,268

2011/2012 - £44,268

2012/2013 - £16,757

And the Disabled Children's Service costs, this team are dedicated to developing and providing short breaks:

2010/11 - £943k average cost per family £2,036

2011/12 - £659k average cost per family £1,445

2012/13 - £768k average cost per family £1,644

**3. Please provide details of any estimates made by the council about the potential growth in the use of respite care for families with disabled children between the ages of 16 and 25 funded by the council and any funds being allocated by the council in anticipation of a growth in the use of respite care for this group.**

The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

**4. Please provide any data held by the council on the number of families with disabled children between the ages of 16 and 25 judged to be 'in crisis', the total cost of dealing with these families and the average cost to the local authority of a family 'in crisis' per year in each of the last three years**

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for local government is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending more than 18 hours in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

Across social care fieldwork we have 140 open cases involving disabled children and their families. We would need to consider each of these open cases to provide a response; drilling down into each record to establish if a family had been 'in-crisis', for how long, what services were accessed, and so on. Depending on the complexity of a case this trawl could require 30 to 60 minutes per record

This is therefore a Refusal Notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act, because under the provisions of section 12.1 of the Act, the Council estimates that to comply with your request in its current form will exceed the appropriate limit.

**5. Please define what qualifies a family as 'in crisis' as determined by the local authority.**

This would be a family that was no longer able to care for their child.

The legislation allows you to use the information supplied for your own personal use. Please be aware that any commercial or other use, for example publication, sale, or redistribution may be a breach of copyright under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 as amended unless you obtain the copyright holder's prior permission.

Not all the information that is supplied which is covered by copyright will be the Council's copyright, for example it may be the copyright of a government department or another Council. You should seek either the Council's consent or their consent as appropriate. The Council is willing to advise you of any such potential issues on request. In order to make a request to re-use the information please contact the Information Governance Manager using the details below.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

**Information Governance Manager**  
**Information and Support**  
**Leicester City Council**  
**FREEPOST (LE985/33)**  
**New Walk Centre**  
**LEICESTER LE1 6ZG**  
e-mail: [info-requests@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:info-requests@leicester.gov.uk)

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

**Information Commissioner's Office**  
**Wycliffe House**  
**Water Lane**  
**Wilmslow SK9 5AF**  
**Telephone: 01625 545 700**  
[www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider appeals or complaints until the internal appeals and complaints processes of the public authority which is answering the request have been exhausted. You are therefore advised to complain or appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.