

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:

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

- 1. Details of funding cuts applied to services under the council's 2011/12 budget (and any service reviews concluded in due course) that were funded through the Supporting People budget in 2010/11, where that funding cut relates to the reduction in the Supporting People element of the formula grant provided to the council for 2011/12 (relative to the ringfenced Supporting People grant provided to the council in 2010/11).**

The services covered by this request are limited to all those that were funded from the Supporting People grant in 2010/11, and accordingly may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- services for ex-offenders and those at risk of offending**
- support for people with mental health problems**
- services for people with physical disabilities**
- support for older people**
- support for people with learning disabilities**
- funding for Gypsies and Travellers**
- cuts to AIDS/HIV support**
- services for drug users**

Funding allocated/available to the council's Housing Related Support Sector is as follows:

- 2010/11 - £13.7m
- 2011/12 - £11.8m;

i.e. the funding allocated/available for 2011/12 represents a £1.9m reduction from the 2010/11 figure.

We are unable to identify the 'supporting people'/housing-related support element of the formula grant provided to the Council for 2011/12. To this extent we are unable to identify "the reduction in the Supporting People element of the formula grant provided to the council for 2011/12" upon which your question is based. On this basis, we are unable to identify any service reductions/efficiencies to housing-related support services that are directly attributable to a reduction in government funding for housing-related support services in 2011/12.

- 2. Where funding for Supporting People-funded services is being pooled (following de-ringfencing) with other non-Supporting People budgets, please provide details.**

In the above request, 'details' comprises (where readily available) both the 2010/11 and 2011/12 levels of funding for each affected service, and qualitative details (where readily available) such as the number of beds, number of FTE staff, or breadth of care available for each affected service 'Readily available' refers to information that can be sourced within the appropriate time limit under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, taking into account the time required to process the remainder of my request. Please state if information has been held back because it is not 'readily available' within the section 12 time limit.

Where funding for a charity (or other non-profit organisation) has been cut, please provide the name of the charity, its 2010/11 funding level, and its 2011/12 funding level. Please note that this only applies to charities funded out of the Supporting People budget, and does not include cases where the contract has simply been re-tendered with no reduction in the available budget.

'Supporting People'/housing-related support remains a distinct budget and has not been pooled following de-ringfencing.

- 3. In addition, please provide details of any funding or service cuts proposed for 2012/13 to services funded from the Supporting People element of the council's formula grant.**

The budget setting cycle has just started and proposals are still under development. No proposals are yet available. This is therefore 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.

- 4. The council is also welcome to provide details of any action it is taking, or any additional funding it is making available, to mitigate the effects of cuts in funding to Supporting People-funded services; please note that this is discretionary and not a formal part of this FOI request, and therefore the time required to provide this information should not be considered as counting towards the section 12 time limit.**

The authority considers expenditure on Housing-Related Support Services within the Adult Social Care budget setting process and associated priorities.

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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 Head of Information Governance using the details below.

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

Head of Information Governance

Information and Support

Leicester City Council

FREEPOST (LE985/33)

New Walk Centre

LEICESTER LE1 6ZG

e-mail: foia@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

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 Head of Information Governance before contacting the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Lynn Wyeth

Head of Information Governance