

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. How many safeguarding referrals have there been for alleged financial abuse in the financial year 01 April 2008 to 31 March 2009, for residents aged over 18 years who receive a direct payment for care?

Information regarding safeguarding referrals, which follow the Department of Health requirements of Abuse of Vulnerable Adults (AVA) return, have been recorded from 20-07-2009 onwards. Prior to this period, the number of safeguarding referrals received did not collect the type of abuse. The Council does not hold the information for the period required. 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.

2. Of these safeguarding referrals in the financial year 01 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 how many concerned allegations against a third party for financial abuse?

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.

3. How many safeguarding referrals have there been for alleged financial abuse in the financial year 01 April 2009 to 31 March 2010, for residents aged over 18 years who receive a direct payment for care?

Information that follows relates to the period 20-07-2009 to 31-03-2010. 128 safeguarding referrals relating to financial abuse were received in the above period, of which, 4 were in receipt of a direct payment.

4. Of these safeguarding referrals in the financial year 01 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 how many concerned allegations against a third party for financial abuse?

Of the 4 people that were in receipt of a direct payment, 1 had the payment made to a third party.

In order to assist you, I would like to clarify the following:

- **By "resident" I mean a person who lives in the community within your area of responsibility and not in residential care.**
- **By "direct payment for care" I mean a person who is assessed as requiring adult social care from social services and who receives a direct payment to purchase their own care.**

- **By “third party” I mean a person or persons who is not the service user, who has been alleged to have financially abused the direct payment of the service user.**

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: 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 the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Lynn Wyeth
Information Governance Manager