

## 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:

In order that the data from our survey and that which you have previously provided can be presented in context, can you please provide the information requested in the following schedules:

#### **Schedule 1: Care commissioned by the Council from independent and voluntary sector providers**

	1 January – 31 December 2010	1 January – 31 December 2011
Number of service users (all ages)		
Total hours		
Total cost (£) of commissioned hours		

#### **Schedule 2: Paid as Direct Payments to service users**

	1 January – 31 December 2010	1 January – 31 December 2011
Number of recipients of direct payments (all ages)		
Total value (£) of direct payments		

Please advise us:

- If and when any eligibility criteria changed.
- Of any other commentary that you think will be helpful.

We believe that the information requested should be readily available as it is fundamental to the Council's operations in providing services to people in your area. We do not believe that responding should place an undue burden on the Council's resources and have therefore not felt it necessary to use the Freedom of Information Act, with its inherent delays.

In addition, we draw to the Council's attention the following *general* inflationary costs which homecare providers are likely to have faced recently. The Council may wish to form a view on how it has accounted for these increased costs in the pricing it adopts with its providers this financial year:

- The challenges of recruiting and retaining careworkers - even in the current job market - with employers struggling to maintain their pay rates ahead of National Minimum Wage. (Please note that the adult rate increased from £5.80 in October 2009 to £5.93 and then to £6.08 in the following two years, rising again this October to £6.19);
- Fuel price increases since April 2009. According to the AA Fuel Price Report average unleaded petrol prices have increased from 95.0pppl to 138.5pppl and diesel from 102.7pppl to 145.5pppl to March 2012;
- Two increases in statutory holiday pay, currently at 5.6 weeks for full-time workers;
- 1% increases in employers' and employees' National Insurance contributions;
- An increase in VAT to 20% on January 2011. While the council will not be paying VAT on regulated homecare services, providers will be paying VAT on applicable goods and services, which they may not be able to claim back;
- The future introduction of compulsory employer contributions to employee pensions schemes;
- Two additional public holidays in the last two years - with staff expecting enhanced pay rates;

**Response:**

<b>Schedule 1: Care commissioned by the Council from independent and voluntary sector providers</b>		
	<b>1/1/10 - 31/1/10</b>	<b>1/1/11 - 31/1/11</b>
<b>No. of Sus</b>	<b>3,828</b>	<b>3,713</b>
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>456,322</b>	<b>686,694</b>
<b>Total cost of commissioned hours</b>	<b>£26,727,698</b>	<b>£27,365,126</b>
<b>Schedule 2: Paid as Direct Payments to service users</b>		
	<b>1/1/10 - 31/1/10</b>	<b>1/1/11 - 31/1/11</b>
<b>Number of Recipients</b>	<b>1,312</b>	<b>1,493</b>
<b>Total Value</b>	<b>£6,948,688</b>	<b>£8,992,303</b>

**Our eligibility criteria have not changed.**

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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](mailto:FOIA@leicester.gov.uk)

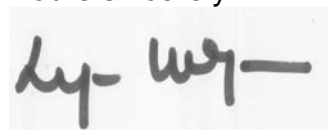
Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

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](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.

Yours sincerely



**Lynn Wyeth**  
**Information Governance Manager**