

## Information Governance

Postal address: Coventry City Council PO Box 15 Coventry CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

E-mail: Phone: 024 7697 5408

Date: 28 April 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

#### Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI318531605

Thank you for your request for information relating to Client Finance/Appointeeship and social care charges.

Your request and our responses are shown below:

**1. How many individuals is the local authority acting as an appointee for, please?** None. To assist, the Council does not have an appointeeship team. Clients who require an appointee are referred to Age UK who take this on independently.

# 2. How many of these individuals (in area or out of area) pays adult social care charges to the council for non-residential services? N/A.

3. Which department is responsible for administering appointeeship?N/A.

**4. Which department is responsible for assessing social care charges?** Financial Assessments Team in Adult Social Care.

5. How many officers in either department carry out an overlapping role with regard to appointeeship and care charges? None.

6. How many times has the appointeeship team responded to a consultation on behalf of individuals or any group of benefits claimants regarding a change in the council's charging

policy, since 2015? N/A.

7. How many appeals about care charges has the appointeeship team submitted to the financial assessment team since 2015?  $\ensuremath{\text{N/A}}$ .

8. How many complaints has the appointeeship team submitted regarding care charges since 2015?  $\ensuremath{\,\text{N/A.}}$ 

9. How many times has the appointeeship team sought or referred individuals they act for, to independent advice (whether third sector, legal aid or privately funded) about care charges, since 2015? N/A.

10. How many times has the appointeeship team questioned the accuracy, fairness or legal validity of individuals' care charges or the council's charging policy, since 2015? N/A.

11. Does the council treat appointeeship as a Care Act service? If so, does it charge for that as part of the Care Act charging system? N/A.

12. How much does it charge, if it makes a charge, per month or per week or per year, please?  $N\!/\!A.$ 

13. If appointeeship is not provided for through the Care Act, does the council allow for a DRE deduction from Disability Benefits income, for the charge it makes for appointeeship (assuming a person is otherwise chargeable)?

It is considered as a DRE where requested.

14. If the council does not operate appointeeships for adult social care clients, does the council permit a full DRE deduction from Disability Benefits income, for any charge levied by any other corporate or private appointee (assuming a person is otherwise chargeable)? It is considered as a DRE where requested.

15. In respect of all council clients who are currently in receipt of adult social care services, regarded as liable to pay a charge for their adult social care services, for whom the appointee role is currently undertaken - how is the relevant department holding the appointeeship responsibility proposing to manage the conflict of interest presented by the judgment in the Norfolk CC v SH case in December 2020, given that the decision means that other similar policies are presumptively unlawful? Please answer with a sentence or a paragraph; it is suggested that it is not a proper response to say that no decisions have been made, as yet, because the problem already exists.

#### N/A.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the <u>Council's web site</u> and in particular its FOI/EIR <u>Disclosure log</u>,

### Council's Publication Scheme, Open Data and Facts about Coventry.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: <u>infogov@coventry.gov.uk</u>.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

## **Information Governance**