

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI716019090

Thank you for your request for information relating to Direct Payments and policy.

You have requested the following information:

1. With regard to supported living clients, who have care and support delivered to them in their own homes occupied under tenancies signed by either them or their authorised representatives or by administrative order from the Court of Protection, what percentage receives their budget via a direct payment, directly or indirectly under sections 31 or 32 of the Care Act, as opposed to receiving a commissioned service?

We are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act that we do not hold the requested information. We do not keep a record of the number of people in supported Living Accommodation that have a direct payment to meet their assessed needs. There are individuals being supported by Voyage Care and Fitzroy who have a direct payment in place.

2. Do you provide any general advice or information to those interested in the welfare of people for whom supported living is regarded as an appropriate way of meeting their needs, about the possibility of receiving their budget via a direct payment? Please link us to it if so.

The council have literature regarding personal budgets and direct payments for workers to share when they complete Care Act Assessments.

3. Does your council have any kind of a policy or practice whereby people who are tenants in supported living, whether it counts or not as 'specified' accommodation, are not permitted to receive their budget by way of a direct payment?

We are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act that we do not hold the requested information. There is no specific policy or practice whereby people who are tenants in supported living are not permitted to have a direct payment to meet their assessed needs, however the council's direct payment policy outlines the circumstances when a direct payment cannot be offered and also outlines what a direct payment cannot be used for.

4. In an individual's situation if he, she, they or their advocate or informal supporter were to enquire about the possibility of their having a direct payment for their budget in supported living, how would the care plan/budget sign-off officer or officers approach that question with regard to the fact that one is allowed to refuse a direct payment on the basis that it is not an appropriate way of meeting a need?

We are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act that we do not hold the requested information. This information is not recorded.

- 5. In supported living households where you make a contract for the meeting of needs of the people sharing the house with one care provider, how do you achieve compliance with s25(11) of the Care Act if the occupants or any one of them does not have sufficient mental capacity to consent to sharing their care plans and the budgets required to meet each person's individual needs? Please provide a prose answer if none of the following apply:
- a) you believe you can make a best interests decision as the council responsible for meeting the needs and that that is sufficient to comply with the very specific contents of that particular section?
- b) you believe that the consent of people's best interests consultees is sufficient to comply with that section?
- c) you believe that a registered finance and property power of attorney or deputyship is sufficient to comply with that section?
- d) you believe that only a registered welfare power of attorney or deputyship is sufficient to comply with that section?

We are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act that we do not hold the requested information. This information is not recorded.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR 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.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

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: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner,

who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance