



Information Compliance Officer
Financial and Corporate Recourses
Council Offices
Floor 11
Almada Street
Hamilton
ML3 0AA

The Secretary
Self Directed Support Network South Lanarkshire

Email: secretary@sdsnet.org.uk

Mobile: 07503 246 288

Date: 17.02.2020

Dear Sir / Madam

Request under the Freedom of Information Act

I am writing to make an open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Reference Social Work Resources Committee, 28 November 2018 – Prioritisation Framework, para 3.19

- How many clients currently have SDS budgets above the benchmark cost of typical residential care.
- What is the council's policy to manage clients with budgets above the benchmark cost of typical residential care?
- Since the introduction of this policy, how many clients with SDS budgets have had their budget reduced to match the typical cost of residential care.
- Of the budgets that have been reduced how many in each SDS Option 1, 2 ,3 ,4
- Provide copies of the council's policy documentation and process documentation used to benchmark the cost of typical residential care.
- Provide copies of the council's policy documentation and process documentation used to review year on year, the benchmark cost of typical residential care.

Please send the secretary:

How and when will the Council deliver this recommendation?

The legislation states you have 20 working days to reply.

I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request.

Yours faithfully

Secretary – Self Directed Support Network South Lanarkshire

Val de Souza
Director, Health and Social Care

Kevin McGoldrick
secretary@sdsnet.org.uk

Our ref: MK/WAC/FOI
Your ref:
If calling ask for: Martin Kane
Phone: 01698 453727
Date: 16 March 2020

Dear Mr McGoldrick

**Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA)
Request for Information**

I refer to your information request(s) received by the Council on 17 February 2020 in which you ask for the following information:

1. How many clients have SDS budgets above the benchmark cost of typical residential care
2. What is the Council's policy to manage clients with SDS budgets above the benchmark cost of typical residential care?
3. Since the introduction of this policy, how many clients with SDS budgets have had their budget reduced to match the typical costs of residential care.
4. Of the budgets that have been reduced how many in each SDS option 1, 2, 3, 4
5. Provide copies of the Council's policy documentation and process documentation used to benchmark the cost of typical residential care.
6. Provide copies of the Council's policy documentation and process documentation used to review year on year, the benchmark cost of typical residential care.

The Council has searched its records and has located some of the information that you have requested.

Information not provided

Excessive Cost Refusal in terms of section 12 of FOISA

In respect of question 1, 3 and 4 of your request, the Council will not deal with your request in relation to information that it holds because, if it did so, it would incur excessive costs. These costs relate to locating, retrieving and providing the requested information to you.

How the costs are calculated

As it would cost the Council over £600 to deal with your request, it does not have to give the information to you. I have explained how the Council have calculated the costs in the attached Cost Refusal Note.

Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton ML3 0AA
Phone: 01698 454362 Fax: 01698 453784
Text Phone: 01698 454273 Email: martin.kane@southlanarkshire.gsx.gov.uk
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

With regards to question 2, the Council is refusing your request because the information that you have asked for is exempt from disclosure under FOISA.

The Council can withhold information where one or more exemptions listed in FOISA apply. The relevant exemption(s) is/are

- ❖ The information requested is otherwise accessible because the Council or another public body makes it available through their Publication Scheme (section 25 (1) and (3) of FOISA)

How the exemption applies to the information being withheld

The information is accessible via the SDS Eligibility Criteria Guidance for Adults and Older people, please see link below:

[SDS Eligibility Criteria Guidance for Adults and Older People and Community Care Services Carers and caring - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

Information provided

In respect of question 5 and 6 of your request, South Lanarkshire Council adhere to the National Care Home Contract for residential care as agreed by Scottish Care and COSLA Leaders and approved by SLC Committee.

SDS benchmark rate is based on net cost not gross rate.

Request for Review

The Council has a Review Panel to deal with complaints from people who are not happy about the way that it has handled their request. Staff not involved in the original decision will handle any review.

If you want to complain, you can ask the Review Panel to look at the way that we have dealt with your request. It will consider whether we have complied with the requirements of FOISA. Please note that if you wish to complain, you must do so by **16 May 2020**. You must explain why you are not happy when requesting a review.

Please note that the Review Panel cannot look at any decisions taken by the Council or actions of the Council or any of its employees or a service provided by it that are not connected to the handling for request for information.

You should send your request for a review to:

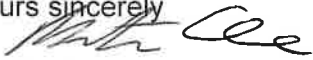
Mr. W. Dunn
Information Compliance Manager
Finance and Corporate Resources
Floor 11
Council Offices
Almada Street
Hamilton
ML3 0AA

Alternatively, you can request a review at foi.reviews@southlanarkshire.gov.uk.

Appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner

If you are not happy with the outcome of the review, you can appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. The Commissioner will decide whether the Council has dealt with your request properly. Please see the Commissioner's website at www.itspublicknowledge.info for further details.

Yours sincerely



Martin Kane
Service Development Manager

Requests for Information - FOISA
Fees Notice

Request Reference Number:

Kevin McGoldrick

Staff costs	Staff type (eg Post Title / Spinal Point)	Task required	Time (hours)	Rate £	Total £
	1 Information Officer	Accessing 1885 records individually to retrieve the information for question(s) 1, 2 and 3 of your request.	314	15	4710.00
	2				0.00
	3				0.00
	4				0.00
	5				0.00
Staff cost total					£4,710.00 A
Non-staff costs	Detail				
	1				
	2				
	3				
Non-staff cost total					£0.00 B
Total Estimated Cost (A + B)					£4,710.00