

From: Freedom of Information Requests

Sent: 20 May 2025 09:57

To:

Subject: FOI Response

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 1 May 2025 for information about adult social care spend. Please find below City of Doncaster Council's responses to the questions you have raised.

1. Please provide, for each financial year from 2014-15 to 2024-25 inclusive, broken down by year, the gross expenditure that your council has spent on:

1. Adult Social Care, defined as services provided or commissioned by the council to support adults (typically aged 18 and over) who have physical or learning disabilities, mental health needs, or age-related conditions. This includes residential care, nursing care, domiciliary (home) care, day care services, personal budgets/direct payments, and assessment and care management costs.
2. Please provide, for the respective years, the gross expenditure on Adult Social Care broken down by category, including but not limited to:
 - Residential and Nursing Care- Care homes for older people and adults with disabilities.
 - Domiciliary (Home) Care- Care provided in people's own homes (e.g., help with washing, dressing, meals).
 - Day Care Services- Day centres offering social activities, therapies, or respite for carers.
 - Supported Living- Housing with support for people with learning disabilities, mental health issues, etc.
 - Direct Payments/Personal Budgets- Money given directly to individuals to arrange their own care.
 - Assessment and Care Management- Costs related to social work teams assessing needs and arranging support.
 - Community-Based Support and Prevention- Services to help people stay independent (e.g., reablement services, advocacy, befriending).
 - Safeguarding Services- Protecting vulnerable adults from abuse or neglect.
 - Other Specialist Services- Mental health support, substance misuse support, sensory support (e.g., for deaf or blind adults).

Response

Data relating to the 2014/15 – 2023/24 financial years:

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 21 exempts information from the right of access if that information is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. The information you have requested is available from within the 'Adult Social Care Activity and Finance Report' return that City of Doncaster Council submits to NHS England. The requested information can be accessed by clicking on the following link, prior years information can be found from the "Past publications" link on the left-hand side of the webpage:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/adult-social-care-activity-and-finance-report/>.

Data relating to the 2024/25 financial year:

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 22 of the Freedom of information Act. Section 22 exempts information from the right of access under the Freedom of Information Act if

it is information intended for future publication. The information you have requested is planned to be published on the gov.uk website linked above within the next 3 months as part of the annual return cycle to government.

As Section 22 is a qualified exemption, the Council is obliged to consider whether disclosure of the information would be in the public interest before refusing to supply the information. Therefore, the Council has taken the following factors into account:

Factors for disclosing information:

- The council wishes to operate in an open and transparent way
- We recognise that decisions and plans should be open to accountability
- The information will be of interest to members of the public

Factors for withholding information:

- It is unfair to provide individual members of the public with access to the information prior to it being available to all
- Disclosure of partial or incomplete information may be detrimental and may not provide accurate details
- To release the information now may be misleading and unreliable as it may be subject to change
- There is a planned programme of publication for this information. The Council considers that it is reasonable to wait until the planned disclosure dates
- The data is in draft and has not yet been finalised. To release the data at this stage may result in numerous queries which we are not able to give accurate responses to until the data is finalised

Taking these factors into consideration, the Council has decided that the reasons for withholding the information outweigh those for disclosing it and we will not be providing the information at this time.

3. The total amount in the respective years received from central government to fulfil these obligations.

4. Total council expenditure from 2014-15 to 2024-25 inclusive, broken down by year.

Response

Data relating to the 2020/21 – 2023/24 financial years:

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 21 exempts information from the right of access if that information is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. The information you have requested is available from published Statement of Accounts (SoA) documents. The Statement of Accounts documents can be accessed by clicking on the following link: <https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/the-council-democracy/statement-of-accounts>. This page has a link to the most recently audited set of accounts near the top, with prior years linked further down.

For ease of access, I can provide the following guidance:

On the 2023/24 SoA document, 'Note 33 Grant Income' on page 75-76 details the main sources of grant income. Similar Note 33 details will be found in the prior years SoA documents. Also on the 2023/24 SoA document, the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement, summarised in a pie chart on page 10, shows total expenditure of £899.1m. Similar summaries will be found in the prior years SoA documents.

Data relating to the 2024/25 financial year:

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 22 of the Freedom of information Act. Section 22 exempts information from the right of access under the Freedom of Information Act if it is information intended for future publication. The information you have requested is planned to be published on the City of Doncaster Council's website by the end of May 2025, as part of the published draft 2024/25 Statement of Accounts – link above.

As Section 22 is a qualified exemption, the Council is obliged to consider whether disclosure of the information would be in the public interest before refusing to supply the information. Therefore, the Council has taken the following factors into account:

Factors for disclosing information:

- The council wishes to operate in an open and transparent way
- We recognise that decisions and plans should be open to accountability
- The information will be of interest to members of the public

Factors for withholding information:

- It is unfair to provide individual members of the public with access to the information prior to it being available to all
- Disclosure of partial or incomplete information may be detrimental and may not provide accurate details
- To release the information now may be misleading and unreliable as it may be subject to change
- There is a planned programme of publication for this information. The Council considers that it is reasonable to wait until the planned disclosure dates
- The Statement of Accounts document is in draft and has not yet been finalised. To release the document at this stage may result in numerous queries which we are not able to give accurate responses to until the data is finalised

Taking these factors into consideration, the Council has decided that the reasons for withholding the information outweigh those for disclosing it and we will not be providing the information at this time.

I hope that this information is useful to you.

The City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £49 to respond to this request for information.

Reviewing any decisions made:

If you are not happy with this reply you can ask us to review our response. To do this write to us within 40 working days of receiving your response at the address below or email FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk

If you do not agree with the review decision you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision about our compliance or otherwise with the Freedom of Information legislation. Contact details for the ICO are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. www.ico.org.uk Telephone 0303 123 1113.

Yours faithfully,

Ellen Dook
Information Governance Officer
Corporate Resources

City of Doncaster Council

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Website www.doncaster.gov.uk