



Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 27th July 2023, for information about fee uplifts for children's residential services.

Please find below City of Doncaster Council's responses to the questions you have raised.

Request:

- Fee uplift (YoY %, 2018-2022)
- Fee uplift (YoY %, 2022-2024)
- Fee uplift (2024-2027) Below inflation, In-line with inflation, Above inflation

Response:

Information not held by City of Doncaster Council

City of Doncaster Council (CDC) does not hold information prior to September 2022, this is following the transfer of Children's Social Care Services from Doncaster Children's Trust (DCST) to CDC. Due to a change in electronic recording systems, the information is no longer accessible and therefore no longer held.

A number of placements are made via the White rose framework and CDC does not hold this information. The White Rose Consortium records this detail as they lead the discussion around pricing for these frameworks therefore you will need to make a request to Leeds City Council at <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/opendata/freedom-of-information-act-2000> for this information.

Information held by City of Doncaster Council

With regard to the information you have requested that CDC does hold, this is exempt from disclosure under Section 43 of the Freedom of information Act. Section 43 exempts information from the right of access under the Freedom of Information Act if disclosure of the information would prejudice someone's commercial interests.

The information withheld under the exemption relates to rates of pay which are individually negotiated with the provider. City of Doncaster Council believes that the release of this information would be likely to cause commercial prejudice to the businesses involved.

As Section 43 is a qualified exemption, the City of Doncaster Council is obliged to consider whether disclosure of the information would be in the public interest before refusing to supply the information. Therefore the City of Doncaster 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

Factors for withholding information:

- disclosure would be likely to adversely affect the providers' commercial interests as disclosure of the information may damage their relationship with the council
- disclosure may weaken the position of the provider in a competitive environment
- the information could be used by those competitors to gain a commercial advantage

Taking these factors into consideration, the City of Doncaster 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.

City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £42.50 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 sincerely,

Lucy McMahon

Freedom of Information Officer
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