

From: Freedom of Information Requests

Sent: 10 May 2024 08:59

To:

Subject: FOI Response - [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 12 April 2024 for information about a suicide audit. Please find below City of Doncaster Council's responses to the questions you have raised.

1. Has your authority undertaken a suicide audit in the last five years (2019 -2023)?
 - a. If yes, is this available in the public domain? Yes or No. (If yes please see 1.b, if no please see 1.c)
 - b. If yes, please provide a web link to the report for us to access.
 - c. If no, please attach the latest report from your authority.
 - d. If you have not undertaken a suicide audit in the last 5 years please provide the reasons for not undertaking the audit? E.g., lack of capacity, lack of expertise, difficulty in accessing data, lack of cooperation from the Coroner's office

Response: 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. A suicide audit was carried out as a piece of research by the University of Sheffield in collaboration with the Coroners Offices and South Yorkshire Local Authorities and it is their intention to publish this research in the future.

As Section 22 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:

- To release the information would be in the spirit of openness and transparency in which the Council operates
- The information is of interest to some members of the public, especially those with an interest in suicides in the area
- Members of the public will be more informed about suicides in the area

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 report now would 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 report is in draft and has not yet been finalised. To release the report at this stage may result in numerous queries which we are not in a position to give accurate responses to until the report is finalised

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.

2. Has your authority developed a suicide action plan in the last five years (2019 -2023) based on the suicide audit? Yes or No. (If yes please see 2.a, if no – no further action needed)
- a. If yes, is this available in the public domain? Yes or No. (If yes please see 2.b, If no please see 2.c)
 - b. If yes, please provide a web link to the action plan for us to access.
 - c. If no, please attach the latest action plan from your authority.

Response: 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. In this case the information is available on our website here: [Doncaster Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan v5 - DRAFT.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

I hope that this information is useful to you.

The City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £92 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.

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