

Archived: 21 May 2024 10:36:34

From: [Freedom of Information Requests](#)

Sent: 13 May 2024 11:17:53

Subject: FOI Request - [REDACTED] - Response

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 12 April 2024, for information about high needs spend.

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

**Request:**

1. What is the name of your local authority?

**Response:**

City of Doncaster Council.

**Request:**

2. How much was spent on your high needs budget by the end of the financial year 2023/24? Please add the value below.

**Response:**

City of Doncaster Council's spend on high needs budget by the end of the financial year 2023/24 was £54.059m.

**Request:**

3. What was your original allocated high needs budget for 2023/24?

**Response:**

City of Doncaster Council's original allocated high needs budget for 2023/24 was £48.117m.

**Request:**

4. How much are you expecting to have spent on your high needs budget by the end of the financial year 2024/25? Please add the value below

**Response:**

City of Doncaster Council does not hold this information. Work to determine the expected spend for 2024/25 will take place from May 2024 but a provisional estimate is c.£58m.

**Request:**

5. What is your original allocated high needs budget for 2024/25?

**Response:**

City of Doncaster Council's original allocated high needs budget for 2024/25 is £50.167m.

**Request:**

6. Have you sought permission from the Department for Education to move more than 0.5% from the DSG to high needs in the current financial year 2024/25? Please indicate YES / NO

**Response:**

No. City of Doncaster Council have not sought permission from the Department for Education to move more than 0.5% from the DSG to high needs in the current financial year 2024/25.

**Request:**

7. If YES, was permission granted? Please indicate YES / NO

**Response:**

Not applicable.

**Request:**

8. Has the council signed up to the Safety Valve programme or any other government scheme to reduce its SEND deficit? If so, how much money has been offered to the council?

8. a) YES / NO YES

8. b) Name of scheme (if YES)

8. c) Value of scheme to the council

**Response:**

8. a) Yes, City of Doncaster Council have signed up to the Safety Valve programme or any other government scheme to reduce its SEND deficit.

8. b) The name of the scheme is 'Delivering Better Value in SEND' programme

8. c) The value of scheme to City of Doncaster Council is £1m.

**Request:**

9. Has the council been part of the Delivering Better Value in SEND programme? Please indicate YES / NO

**Response:**

Yes, City of Doncaster Council has been part of the Delivering Better Value in SEND programme.

**Request:**

10. Please tell us about any other ways the council is looking to reduce pressure on its high needs budget and add any further comments that would help us understand those pressures on your high needs budget.

**Response:**

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 'a021 of the Freedom of information Act. Section 21 exempts information from the 'a0right of access if that information 'a0is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. In this case the information is available at: [i cab 081123 - 23244006 Final- Equitable and Inclusive Access Cab - November 2023 - Final.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#) in the cabinet report dated 8 November 2023.

I hope that this information is useful to you.

City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £46.00 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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.org.uk) Telephone 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely,

**Lucy McMahon**

Freedom of Information Officer  
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