

Freedom of Information – Response – 26772

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information to me:

1. What was the total income the local authority received from client contributions towards the cost of adult social care for each of the following years: 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025 - present? By client contributions, we mean any payments that recipients of care in their own home must pay the local authority towards the cost of providing that care.

The amount accounted for in income from charging is as per below. This is all non-residential income, including charging for homecare, daycare, supported housing, extra care housing etc:

22/23: 15.2m

23/24: 19.4m

24/25: 23.8m

25/26 Q1-Q3: 18.1m

2. For each of those same years, please provide the total expenditure made by the local authority on adult social care in relation to care people receive in their own home (home visits, etc)

The amount paid for Homecare services are as follows:

22/23: 61.5m

23/24: 79.0m

24/25: 84.6m

25/26 Q1-Q3: 56.4m

3. Please provide information as to how the local authority determines if someone's contributions should increase.

Suffolk County Council (SCC) will reassess a person's contributions when informed of, or becomes aware of, a change in circumstances. Any revised charges will be backdated to the date the change took effect, rather than the date notified.

4. If a decision is made that a client's contribution should increase, but the client does not contribute the higher rate of payments, does the local authority allow a client to run up arrears?

Non-payment of assessed (and or increased) contributions is progressed through the council's debt recovery procedures.

5. How many times during the years listed in Question 1 has the council started legal proceedings against a client for non-payment of their contributions?

22/23: 0 (zero)

23/24: 1

24/25: 1

25/26 Q1 - Q2 (other quarters data for this year not yet available): 0 (zero)

6. If possible, please indicate if the local authority has a benchmark arrears figure at which it will pursue legal action, and provide that figure.

There is no minimum threshold of arrears required before the local authority may pursue

legal action. However, each case is considered individually, and factors such as economic viability and proportionality will be taken into account before proceeding.

7. In how many cases in the years listed in Question 1 did the local authority secure a default judgement against a client who ran up arrears?

0 (Zero).