

Waltham Forest Town Hall, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E17 4JF

Tracey Lazard
Inclusion London
BY EMAIL: tracey.lazard@inclusionlondon.org.uk

Ask for: Debbie Callender-O'Neill
Email: Debbie.callender-oneill@walthamforest.gov.uk
Direct line: 020 8496 3000
Ref: **2015-00887**
Date: 29th September 2015

Dear Ms Lazard

RE: Community Care Assessments

I am writing in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('FOIA'), which we received on **21st August**.

The wording of your request was as follows:

- 1. How many former Independent Living Fund (ILF) recipients reside in London Borough of Waltham Forest?**
- 2. How many former ILF recipients have had community care assessments since the closure of the ILF fund?**
- 3. How many former ILF recipients who have had community care assessments have had their care packages reduced following the assessment?**
- 4. How many former ILF recipients who have had community care assessments have had reductions in levels of care package funding and/or support of under 10%? How many have had reductions of between 10 and 20%? How many have had reductions of between 21% and 40%? How many have had reductions of between 41% and 50%? How many have had reductions of over 50%?**
- 5. What % of former ILF recipients, who have had a cut to their care package come from the following impairment groups: people with learning difficulties/disabilities; people with physical impairments; people with cognitive impairments; people with long term health conditions; people with mental health issues?**
- 6. How many former ILF recipients who have had community care assessments were provided with independent advocacy as detailed in the Care Act 2014?**
- 7. How many former ILF recipients who have had community care assessments have appealed their community care assessment decision and how many of these appeals have been heard by the Appeals office to date?**
- 8. LBWF received £955,686 INDEPENDENT LIVING FUND GRANT DETERMINATION (2015/16) from the Department for Communities and Local Government. Given, this funding was not ring fenced how is this money being used?**
- 9. Are any former ILF recipients moving from their own home into residential care or supported housing following their community care assessment?**



10. Did LBWF carry out an Equality Impact Assessment regarding the impact in Waltham Forest of the closure of the ILF and transfer of responsibilities to the Council including the decision not to ring fence the £955,686 of transition funding? If so please send me a copy

Responses

1. There are 60 service users on the Independent Living Fund (ILF) registered on the database
Of the 60, 55 live in the borough of Waltham Forest, plus one in residential care provided by LBWF outside the borough.
2. All in receipt of ILF have been reviewed.
3. Total number is 53 reductions.
4. How many former ILF recipients who have had community care assessments have had reductions in levels of care package funding and/or support of under 10% = **12**
How many have had reductions of between 10 and 20% = **7**
How many have had reductions of between 21% and 40% = **11**
How many have had reductions of between 41% and 50% = **7**
How many have had reductions of over 50% = **16**
53 cases plus 7 with increases = 60
5. These are all people with learning disabilities or physical disabilities.
6. All service users were over 18 years of age and if assessed to have capacity they would have been advised re advocacy services. Majority of recipients had family/friends present during re-assessment
7. 19 official appeals.
8. The revenue funding transfer from DCLG will be used to fund care packages for ex-ILF clients after they have been reassessed and support plans have been approved by the Internal Quality Management Care Plan
9. 2 cases have requested supported living /specialist learning disability placements
10. Please find this enclosed

I trust that the above satisfies your enquiry. If you have any queries about this letter, please contact as below. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications:

Debbie Callender-O'Neill
Families Business Support Officer
Business Support - Families Directorate
Willow House, 1st Floor
869 Forest Road, Walthamstow
London, E17 4UH

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you have the right to complain about the Council's response to your request for information. If you wish to pursue such a complaint, please do so within 28 days from the date of this letter and ask for a review of the Council's

decision. Please write to: The Information Officer, Learning from Complaints Team, Room 104, Waltham Forest Town Hall, Walthamstow E17 4JF, or email information.officer@walthamforest.gov.uk. Please mark your request clearly as "Request for Review".

If after receiving a response to the review, you remain dissatisfied with the Council's response, you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. Further information can be obtained via the Information Commissioner's helpline 0303 123 1113 or their website at: http://www.ico.gov.uk/complaints/freedom_of_information.aspx

Yours sincerely



Debbie Callender-O'Neill
Families Business Support Officer
Families Directorate