



Reference: RFI 1711124

Request:

The assessment of an adult's available income for the purposes of charging for care and support under the Care Act 2014

I'd be most grateful if you could supply answers to the following questions. The aim of the questions is to ascertain whether your authority, when determining how much an adult must pay for their care and support provided with under the Care Act 2014, permit the adult to retain enough of their income (in addition to the minimum income guaranteed by the relevant regulations) to pay for reasonable expenditure incurred in feeding and maintaining a household pet cat or dog.

If your authority considers that complying with this request in its entirety will exceed the statutory cost of compliance limit (specified in The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004) then I ask that you respond to the following questions in the order they appear until that limit is reached.

The regulations referred to in the following questions are The Care and Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations 2014.

The questions that comprise this Freedom of Information request are as follows:

1. When assessing whether a charge for non-residential care and support provided under the Care Act 2014 is reasonably practicable for an adult to pay, does your council permit, in any circumstances, adults to retain enough of their income (i.e. in addition to the minimum income guaranteed in regulation 7 and in addition to any disability-related expenditure in paragraph 4 Part 1 Schedule 1 of the regulations) to pay for reasonable expenditure incurred in feeding and maintaining a household pet cat or dog (excluding a guide dog or assistance dog)?

Financial disregards for expenses relating to keeping a pet would normally not be applied unless the animal is an assistance animal. Our policy is attached

2. If the answer to 1 above is Yes:

Does your council have a policy as to when it is appropriate to permit an adult to retain enough of their income to pay for reasonable expenditure incurred in feeding and maintaining such a pet?

3. If the answer to 2 above is Yes:

Please provide a copy of the policy or, if it is an unwritten policy, explain the basic criteria applied in deciding when it is reasonable to permit an adult to retain enough of their income to cover this expenditure?