



Reference: RFI 1705022

**Request:**

Please can you provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

1 - How many assessments under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards were conducted during the period 01/05/2009 to 01/05/2017 by the following:

- a.) Council employed Best Interest Assessors.
- b.) Independent Best Interest Assessors (not employed directly by the Local Authority).
- c.) Mental Health Assessors.
- d.) Assessments allocated to 3rd part recruitment agency contracts.

	<b>a)</b> Council employed Best Interest Assessors.	<b>b)</b> Independent Best Interest Assessors	<b>c)</b> Mental Health Assessors.	<b>d)</b> Assessments allocated to 3rd part recruitment agency contracts.
2009/10	17	0	0	0
2010/11	24	0	0	0
2011/12	16	0	0	0
2012/13	22	0	14	0
2013/14	18	0	15	0
2014/15	483	4	514	0
2015/16	428	294	742	0

NB 2016/17 Is not currently available as is going through the validation process as part of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Annual Return. This data will be available post 14<sup>th</sup> June. Data is not held electronically for the Mental Health Assessors for the period 2009 – 2012. To provide this would mean a manual trawl which is not possible due to the numbers involved and the time that this would take.

2- Total budget spend on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards from 01/05/2009 to 01/05/2017, broken down to include:

- a.) The total council spend on DoLS assessments split between employed Best Interest Assessors, Independent Best Interest Assessors, Mental Health Assessors and/or recruitment agencies for the period 01/05/2009 to 01/05/2017
- b.) Price paid per BIA assessment.
- c.) Price paid per Mental Health Assessment for DoLS.

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d.) Total DoLS team budget for 2017-2018.

e.) Details of the current DoLS team members by name / job title and number of qualified Best Interest Assessors working in your local authority. Please include contact details for the current MCA/DoLS Service lead and DoLS team manager.

a)

	Medical	Independent Sector BIAs
09/10	576.48	0.00
10/11	1,875.63	0.00
11/12	1,873.90	0.00
12/13	2,030.32	0.00
13/14	1,467.07	0.00
14/15	76,710.04	315.04
15/16	152,847.74	53,162.16
16/17	188,595.67	7,556.62

The period covered in the above is actually 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2017 as it provides complete periods in line with financial years. . The BIA costs are only those incurred via the Independent Sector, as internal assessments undertaken just form part of the Councils salary costs. It is not possible to identify the proportion of this applicable to BIA

b) It is not possible to identify the costs for Council employed Best Interest Assessors as these form part of the Council's salary costs. Costs paid by North Tyneside Council to Independent Best Interest Assessors for work undertaken in other parts of the Country vary between £175 and £250.

c) Drs are paid £175, within the Northern Region, to complete the capacity, mental health and eligibility assessments.

d) £198,336. This is the budget for the staffing team themselves and does not include budget allocated to pay for assessments by third parties.

e) MCA/DoLS Service Lead and Team manager Sue Wood (sue.wood@northtyneside.gov.uk))  
 Isobel Larsen full time DoLS Coordinator Qualified Social Worker  
 Hilary Laws part time DoLS Coordinator Qualified Social Worker  
 David Tunnell part time Best Interest Assessor Qualified Social Worker  
 Gabrielle Stokes part time Best Interest Assessor Qualified Social Worker  
 Elizabeth Dudding part time Best Interest Assessor Qualified Social Worker  
 Lailah Aziz full time Admin  
 Danielle Brown full time Admin  
 Ryan Keddy Apprentice Admin

**Number of qualified Best Interest Assessors working within the Authority**

Qualified BIAs acting as signatories 10  
 Qualified BIAS undertaking assessments 22  
 Qualified BIAS undertaking COP referrals 5

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Qualified Social Workers undertaking BIA training 9

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