

Date: 30 January 2025 Our Ref: RFI4998 Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

By Email Only

Dear

### RE: Request for Information – RFI4998

Thank you for your request for information which was processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You requested the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information regarding government policy decisions and funding allocations for social care.

Specifically, I would like responses to the following questions:

### **General Funding Decisions**

- 1. What data or analysis was used to determine the allocation of funding for social care in the 2025 Budget?
- 2. Has the government conducted an impact assessment on the financial sustainability of social care providers following the funding allocations in the 2025 Budget? If so, please provide the findings.
- 3. What are the projected economic and social outcomes of not increasing social care funding in line with inflation and demand?
- 4. How does the government calculate the required annual funding for social care services to ensure they are sustainably financed?

## **National Minimum Wage and Cost Pressures**

5. What assessment was made regarding the impact of the increased National Minimum Wage on social care providers' ability to operate sustainably?

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- 6. Did the government consider the cumulative effect of rising Employer National Insurance Contributions and wage increases on care providers? Please provide supporting documentation.
- 7. How does the government plan to offset additional operational costs faced by social care providers due to increased wage obligations?

## **Local Authority Funding**

- 8. What percentage of local authority budgets for adult social care in the past three years have been funded directly by central government grants?
- 9. What guidelines have been issued to local authorities on the distribution of social care funding to providers?
- 10. What measures are in place to ensure local authorities have adequate resources to meet their statutory obligations under the Care Act 2014?

## **Long-Term Policy and Strategy**

- 11. Has the government developed a long-term funding strategy for social care? If so, please provide the details.
- 12. What specific measures have been introduced to address the anticipated growth in demand for adult social care services over the next decade?
- 13. Has the government consulted with the social care sector regarding funding adequacy and longterm sustainability? Please provide records of such consultations.

## **Risk of Provider Collapse**

- 14. What assessment has the government made regarding the risk of social care provider collapse due to insufficient funding?
- 15. What contingency plans are in place to support individuals reliant on services from providers that are at risk of closure?

#### **Economic Contribution and Public Communication**

- 16. What research or data has the government used to calculate the £68.1 billion annual economic contribution of the social care sector?
- 17. What steps is the government taking to improve public awareness of the funding challenges in social care?

### **Response**

We can confirm that Homes England does not hold the information detailed in your request.

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The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. The duty under section 1(1) is only to provide the recorded information held.

The full text of section 1 in the legislation can be found here:

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/1

### **Advice and Assistance**

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 of the FOIA. To comply with this duty we are able to confirm that Homes England is the government's housing and regeneration agency. Together with our partners, we're accelerating the pace of house building and regeneration across the country, as we seek to deliver homes and places people are proud to live in.

We are not responsible for social care policy or social care funding. We suggest that you consider contacting the Department for Health and Social Care.

You can access their website via the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care

## **Right to Appeal**

If you are not happy with the information that has been provided or the way in which your request has been handled, you may request an internal review. You can request an internal review by writing to Homes England via the details below, quoting the reference number at the top of this letter.

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

Information Governance Team Homes England The Lumen 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor St James Boulevard

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Newcastle Helix Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 5BZ United Kingdom

Your request for review must be made in writing, explain why you wish to appeal, and be received within 40 working days of the date of this response. Failure to meet this criteria may lead to your request being refused.

Upon receipt, your request for review will be passed to an independent party not involved in your original request. We aim to issue a response within 20 working days.

You may also complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) however, the Information Commissioner does usually expect the internal review procedure to be exhausted in the first instance.

The Information Commissioner's details can be found via the following link:

### https://ico.org.uk/

Please note that the contents of your request and this response are also subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Homes England may be required to disclose your request and our response accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

The Information Governance Team

For Homes England

The Lumen 2nd Floor St James Boulevard Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 5BZ







