

- 1) How many teachers were hired through recruitment agencies by schools for which your local authority is responsible in each year since 2010?

The number of teachers hired through recruitment agencies would need to be obtained from each individual school as the Council does not hold this information.

- 2) The amounts spent on supply teachers by schools for which your local authority is responsible in each year since 2010?

The Council's financial system holds summary of spend by account code by individual school and as such individual agency spend is not separately detailed. As such we do not hold the breakdown of spend on supply teachers by individual school that could be aggregated.

We do have a summary of agency spend for our maintained schools, but this is not split between agency spend on teachers and agency spend on office staff etc.

The attached spreadsheet details the total agency spend by our maintained schools for each calendar year between 2011 and 2022.

We do not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/3244) set out the rules in relation to the cost limit (otherwise called the "appropriate limit"). These Regulations are published by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) and are viewable on their web site from this link:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf

The Regulations set out the cost limit for Government departments and for other public authorities. For local government, Regulation 3 states that the cost limit is £450 and Regulation 4(4) states that the prescribed hourly rate is £25. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA.

I am satisfied the cost limit applies to your request and will explain why this is the case.

We do have individual transactions separately listed on Microsoft Word files submitted monthly by our maintained schools, but to get the information for the timeframe requested would require interrogating 17,616 individual files which would take considerably longer than the 18 officer hours stipulated in the Act.