

<b>REQUEST</b>	<b>16309</b>
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I would appreciate it if you could please send me the number of applications for SEN provisions for the last 15 years please. I would also like the number of SEN provision places available for the last 15 years.

Eg. 2018 | Applications 80 | Places available 35

## **RESPONSE**

### Applications for SEN provisions:

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](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. This is because for one year’s data the Council would need to review each pupil record – 3,000 records in total. It estimates that it would take 10 minutes per pupil record. This would therefore require more than 18 hours of work.

### Special School places:

In terms of the information requested on each Special School places information is available and published by the Department for each local authority area Education at:

[Get Information about Schools - GOV.UK \(get-information-schools.service.gov.uk\)](http://get-information-schools.service.gov.uk)