

QUESTION NO 17

**By Councillor Campbell for answer
by the Convener of the Education,
Children and Families Committee at a
meeting of the Council on 14
December 2023**

Question

- (1)** On the 2nd of November I asked the convener about the contract spend on mental health services of children and young people.

The convener's answer only talked about the £1m funding per annum that comes directly from the Scottish Government and no detail was provided about the council's own funding provision. Instead I was directed towards the contract register which is published on the council's website. The information on the contract register is minimal, with only a brief description given for each project. It is not possible to determine what contracts in place are for mental health support for children and young people from the contract register. Can the convener please provide the information asked for last month which was:

Can the convener please set out the contract spend within the Children, Education and Justice Services directorate on counselling and other direct mental health and wellbeing support for children and young people including details of how much is spent overall, which organisations are funded and what they are expected to deliver for that funding?

Answer

- (1)**

Question

(2) Last month I asked the convener:

Can the convener confirm how many children and young people access counselling services directly funded by council contract spend within C,E&JS?

And I was told that:

‘This information is supplied by each provider to their contract manager as part of the contract monitoring process. Information will be collated manually and provided as soon as available. Contract Management procedures are being reviewed by CEJS and will continue to be a priority to ensure the data informs the service in a timely and comprehensive manner’

Can the convener please provide this information now, or give a timeline and process by which it will be provided (i.e. an update to committee, a report or a briefing note)?

Answer

(2)

Question

(3) Last month I asked the convener:

Can the convener please set out the details as above but specifically in relation to:

- (a) Children and young people at risk of or experiencing homelessness
- (b) Children and young people in families where a parent or carer has issues with addiction or substance misuse?

And received the response:

‘The Council has a joint contract with EADP to address the specific need of children affected by parental substance use.

The volume of referrals and interventions is discussed during contract monitoring activities. Information will be collated manually and provided as soon as available.’

Can the convener please provide this information now, or give a timeline and process by which it will be provided (i.e. an update to committee, a report or a briefing note)?

Answer (3)

Question (4) Last month I asked:

How much of this spend, if any, is statutory?

This information was not provided, as the amount of council spend on contracts to provide mental health support for children and young people was not provided.

Can the convener please provide this information now, or give a timeline and process by which it will be provided (i.e. an update to committee, a report or a briefing note)?

Answer (4)

Question (5) Last month I asked:

When are these contracts up for review?

And I was given the answer

‘The details can be found on the contract register published on City of Edinburgh Council website.’

As I was unable to determine which contracts on the contract register are for mental health support for children and young people, could the convener please provide a list of the relevant contracts and their review dates?

Answer (5)