Further to your Freedom of Information request FOI67569 please find your questions and our responses below:

1. Which expert witness firms/agencies were used and how much was spent with each one;

2. Which firms/agencies were used to provide assessments of parents or individuals applying for special guardianship orders (including residential/viability/community assessments) and how much was spent with each one;

3. Which firms/agencies were used to provide assessment of potential in-house foster parents or adopters and how much was spent with each one;

4. Which firms/agencies were used to provide independent fostering services and how much was spent with each one;

5. Which firms/agencies were used to provide independent adoption services and how much was spent with each one;

6. Which firms/agencies were used to provide consultancy services to child protection/children in need teams and how much was spent with each one

(NB I only want to know about firms offering assistance at professional level, please do not include generic services such as IT support, health and safety etc);

Examples might be a firm that conducted an assessment or review of part of the service, or assisted with performance management, or provided a case file audit.

7. Which firms/agencies were used to provide interim management services and how much was spent with each one;

8. Which firms were used to provide residential children's home services and how much was spent with each one;

9. Which firms/agencies were used to provide social worker contractors for defined projects or work that would otherwise be carried out in-house and how much was spent with each one;

10. Which firms/agencies were used to provide temporary or locum staff (eg for sickness cover) and how much was spent with each one;

11. Which firms were used to provide independent reviewing officers and how much was spent with each one.
12. Which firms/agencies were used to provide intervention services to families considered to be "on the edge of care" and how much was spent with each one.

Please provide separate details and figures for each year.

Where payments were made to social worker contractors/independent social workers as individuals rather than companies please provide names.

Response

Information not held

If you are unhappy with the information we have provided in response to your request please write to:

Information Management Team Manager
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
Town Hall, St Ives Road
Maidenhead
SL6 1RF

or send an e-mail to martin.tubbs@rbwm.gov.uk

We are proud to be one of the leading authorities in England for consistently responding to information requests within the 20 working days set down by statute. Information about our performance and summaries of requests received can be found on our website:

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/foi_information_requests.htm

We are keen to hear about your experience with the Information Management Team here at the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead and look forward to receiving any comments you have about the way your information request was processed.

Please send any feedback to the Information Management Team Manager either by e-mail martin.tubbs@rbwm.gov.uk or in writing to the address above.

Yours sincerely

David Davies
Information Management Officer
Legal Department
Corporate Directorate
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
Town Hall, St.Ives Road
Maidenhead SL6 1RF