

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 003553  
Date            7 May 2019

### *Period Poverty Provision*

#### Request:

Details requested:

1. **How many schools is your council responsible for?**
  - Secondary schools: 3 out of 20
  - Primary schools: 36 out of 73 (including infant and junior)
  
2. **Has the council identified 'period poverty' as a priority?**
  - No

While period poverty has not in itself been identified as a 'priority', it has been considered as part of a broader set of approaches to addressing the wider issue of poverty and its impacts. This includes determining the scope of the issue locally.

3. **How many schools provide or are due to provide paid-for sanitary provisions (e.g. sanitary towels, tampons) for pupils?**
  - Number of secondary schools:
  - Name of secondary schools:
  - Number of primary schools:
  - Number of primary schools:

In response to question 3, Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at:

- Section 1(1) (a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held.
- The second duty at Section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held.

In respect of question 3, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information.

Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

4. **How many schools provide or are due to provide free sanitary products (e.g. sanitary towels, tampons) for pupils?**

- Number of secondary schools:
- Name of secondary schools and format free sanitary products are provided e.g. basket in toilet, basket behind reception/school nurse, vending machine, on request to teacher:
- Number of primary schools:
- Number of primary schools and format free sanitary products are provided e.g. basket in toilet, basket behind reception/school nurse, on request to teacher:

[Please see our response to question 3 above.](#)

5. **Does your council have funding allocated for period poverty and/or providing free sanitary products within schools?**

- [No](#)

If Yes:

- Amount:
- Over what time period:
- Source:
- What has this money been used for / been allocated for?

6. **Have you already invested or do you have plans to invest in any period poverty/free sanitary product measures? If so, please detail and include whether this has been completed or is planned for the future.**

[The Department for Education has recently announced plans to provide free sanitary products in primary schools, in addition to the commitment made to provide these in secondary schools and colleges, by 2020:](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/free-sanitary-products-in-all-primary-schools>