



Reference: RFI 1711053

**Request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information on the use of funding panels within the council's adults' services department. For the purpose of this request, we define a funding panel as a panel to which social workers present cases, in order to get agreement and funding for the care and support package a person may need.

1. Does the council use a funding panel to make any personal budget allocation decisions for adult social care?

*The Council uses a Resource Allocation System (RAS) to allocate personal budgets. Panels are used where the personal budget plus 10% allocated via the RAS is insufficient to meet the person's eligible needs*

2. Does the council have separate funding panels for different service user groups e.g. older people, learning disability? If yes, please list.

*Yes for all client groups with eligible needs and a separate RAS panel for clients with a Learning Disability. All service user groups use the same RAS however.*

3. What panels were in place on 1 November 2010, 1 November 2011, 1 November 2012, 1 November 2013, 1 November 2014, 1 November 2015, 1 November 2016?

RAS Panel has been in place since 2010 for personal budgets that needs to be increased by more than 10%.

4. Does the funding panel consider residential care packages, domiciliary care packages, supported living packages, any other types of care? (Please list).

*All of the above for needs that generate a personal budget*

5. What is the financial threshold i.e. above what level of expenditure that requires a case to be considered by the panel? Please specify for each type of care.

*The RAS generated budget plus 10% can be agreed at Service Manager level without panel approval. Anything above 10% has to come to panel*

6. Has this changed since the panel was set up? If so, when and from how much?

*No*

7. Does the panel consider new cases only, or reviews of existing care packages as well?

*New cases and reviews of existing care packages*

8. Does the council operate any funding panels in conjunction with other agencies e.g. the NHS? If yes, please list these agencies and the remit of these funding panels.

*NHS for CHC and shared funding – panel with CCG*

*Section 117 aftercare with CCG*

*Whole Life Disability – Continuing Care – panel with CCG children's commissioner*

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of the Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Head of Law and Governance, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY