

32903

How much funding did you your local authority receive from the Scottish Government for the access to counsellors in secondary schools programme in a)2019/20, b) 2020/21 and c) the current year?

Funding received by the Scottish Government for counselling in schools in:

2019/2020 - £705K (for P6-S6 pupils).

2020/2021 - £955K.

2021/2022 - £955k.

Please note the funding is not split by primary and secondary schools. Services are cluster based with the secondary school holding the budget and line managing the staff but services are provided across the cluster.

Please list every secondary school that you have in your local authority and how many hours of access to a school counsellor is provided to pupils in a)2019/20, b) 2020/21 and c) the current year?

Schools	2019/2020 – Total Hours per week	2020/2021 - Total hours per week	2021/2022 - Total hours per week
Broughton HS		21.6	36
Liberton		14.4	36
Firrhill		21.6	43.2
Gracemount		21.6	21.6
Boroughmuir		28.8	28.8
Forresters		25.2	25.2
QHS		36	36
St Aug		28.8	28.8
Portobello		28.8	43.2
Holyrood		21.6	21.6
Craigmount		14.4 (another full time counsellor withdrew early on)	43.2
Trinity		36	36
Royal High School		36	36
Currie		21.6	21.6
Drummond		21.6	21.6
Craigroyston		18	18
James Gillespies		28.8	25.2
Leith		28.8	36

Balerno		21.6	21.6
Castlebrae		0 - initially recruited 20 hours but person left very early on and unable to recruit	14.4
WHEC	15	15	15
St Thomas		17.5	17.5
Tynecastle	14	14	14

Please note that we do not have complete data for 2019/20 as Schools spent money on counselling that year from their own budget. The schools could then request to be reimbursed but there was no requirement for them to state how many hours they received, and this has not been recorded.

Please note that this letter constitutes a notice under section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

How many school counsellors were employed in your local authority area in a)2019/20, b) 2020/21 and c) the current year?

2019/2020 – 0.

End of 2020/2021 – 24.

2010/2022 – 23 as of August (hope to recruit approx. 3 more).

How many teachers does your local authority employ and how many have undergone mental health training?

As per HR report run on 20th May 2021 the Council employed 3,933 teachers.

Please note that this figure is only valid for the date of the report as this figure changes throughout the year. Also, this only includes the teachers working in schools, including all promoted posts (i.e. headteachers, deputies etc) and does not include any GTCS registered teachers on the payroll working in Head Office or in other areas of CEC, including supply.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide you with the number that have undergone mental health training as the cost to the Council of locating, retrieving and providing you with the information exceeds the statutory maximum of £600.

Section 12 (1) of the Act does not oblige a Scottish public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the statutory limit.

Description of necessary work:

The Council does not hold any figures centrally regarding how many teachers have undergone some form of mental health training. In order to provide you with this information, it would require contacting each school, and asking them to speak to each teacher, to report on any training of this sort they have undertaken. At approximately 5 minutes per teacher, including collating this information, this equates to 19,665 minutes (327.75 hours) worth of work. Charged

at £15 per hour for staff to perform this task (the highest rate we are able to charge), the total cost of complying with your request is £4,916.25.

This sum has been calculated as follows:

3,933 teachers X 5 minutes = 19,665 minutes

19,665 minutes / 60 = 327.75 hours

327.75 hours X £15 = £4,916.25

Although we cannot provide figures for the number of teachers that have undergone mental health training, we can provide contextual information regarding mental health in schools, as below.

The Health & Wellbeing Team and Educational Psychology Team developed Moving On Coming Together (2 sessions) to support staff mental health and children's mental health and wellbeing. This was delivered to over 1000 staff in various online sessions during lockdown.

In addition, there have been a number of online Headteacher training inputs offered which look at Building Resilience during COVID times and Managing Stress and Anxiety amongst others. A new Building Resilience resource was shared with secondary schools to use with young people to support mental health and wellbeing on return from lockdown in 2020. Also, this August a new S1-S4 curriculum programme to support mental health and wellbeing will be launched called Young Minds Matter.

In addition, with regards to staff training, the following online courses have been shared with staff - essential CAMHS online training, online National Trauma Training, Scottish Government Mental Health in schools training.