

59742 Council Decision-Making - Analytics and Systems

I am submitting the following request for information relating to uses of data analytics, predictive analytics, or algorithmic automated systems used for processing, risk assessment, scoring systems or automated decision making within the jurisdiction of your authority. This could include the use of these data systems in order to draw insights from large and integrated datasets, or to influence decisions about resources, funding or service delivery. This could include, but may not be limited to, uses of predictive analytics in children's services, adult social care, health care, housing and homelessness, low-income and debt support, fraud detection, or policing.

Please can you provide a list of the council's data analytics, predictive analytics, or algorithmic automated systems?

Specific details on software and systems used will not be provided. This is withheld under Section 30(c) - Prejudice to effective conduct of public affairs (cyber-security).

Which areas are they used in? (For example, "children's services relating to Child Criminal Exploitation" or "homelessness provision").

Data analysis is undertaken in various parts of the Council, from individual service level to the wider corporate level.

Which different datasets are used to contribute to this and where does the data come from?

Data used in analytics comes from various datasets, including the Council's customer relationship management system and back-office line of business systems.

Please can you tell me the names of any projects, provisions, or pilots you have at the moment relating to these?

Machine learning is being utilised within the Council's Customer Services team for Translation Services to translate documents into different languages more efficiently. It is currently only applied to generic printed materials. Machine learning tools have also been developed around some of the Customer Services internal reporting.

The names of companies you have contracts with to supply data analytics, predictive analytics, or algorithmic automated systems.

Not applicable.

The amount of funding supplied by any companies relating to data analytics.

The Translate tool referenced in A4 above was developed by another local authority. It was shared with the City of Edinburgh Council for their use, free of charge.