



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Alix Martin

11 August 2026

Dear Alix Martin

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-216093-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about Grisedale Croft Care Home - records of the identified replacement property received on Mon, 13 Jul 2026.

Request

This request concerns the property referred to in paragraph 9.5 of the Cabinet report of 21 April 2026 on the future of Grisedale Croft Care Home, Alston ("a potentially suitable property has been identified"), and the property matters confirmed in the Council's response of 17 June 2026 to FOI-211895-2026 (an officer visit on 17 April 2026; the property "sold subject to contract"; discussions on a confidential basis about another potential property).

Please provide the recorded information the Council holds about the property or properties identified as potential replacement provision for Grisedale Croft, including -

1) The fact and date on which each property was identified, and how it came to the Council's attention.

- 2) Any particulars, valuation, condition or cost information held for each property.
- 3) The record of the officer visit of 17 April 2026 (for example, a visit note, file note or report), and any internal notes or correspondence about the suitability of the property.
- 4) Any recorded information about the property having been "sold subject to contract", including the date the Council learned of this.
- 5) Any capital-funding records or correspondence relating to the acquisition of replacement provision for Grisedale Croft.

I recognise that some of this information may be commercially sensitive. Where the Council considers section 43(2) (or any other exemption) applies, please apply it to the specific information engaged and release the remainder, and for anything withheld please provide a refusal notice with the public-interest balance, rather than treating the request as "not held". Where a property is no longer in contention (for example, one already sold), the commercial sensitivity is likely to be reduced and I would ask the Council to reconsider disclosure accordingly.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1) The fact and date on which each property was identified, and how it came to the Council's attention.

Officers have located potentially suitable properties on Rightmove.

2) Any particulars, valuation, condition or cost information held for each property.

We can confirm that Westmorland and Furness Council holds information within the scope of your request.

However, the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to information whose disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice commercial interests.

The requested information includes details relating to the valuation, condition and cost information of Council-owned care homes. Disclosure of this information

would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the Council by revealing commercially sensitive information concerning the value and operation of these assets. Such disclosure could weaken the Council's position in future commercial negotiations, procurement activities, property transactions, or other market-related activities.

Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption, and we have therefore considered the public interest in disclosure against the public interest in maintaining the exemption. These are set out as follows -

Factors favouring disclosure:

Promoting transparency and accountability in the use of public funds

Increasing public understanding of how Council assets are managed and their plans going forward

Factors favouring maintaining the exemption:

Preventing prejudice to the Council's commercial interests

Protecting the Council's ability to secure best value in future negotiations and transactions

Avoiding the disclosure of commercially sensitive information that could be used by third parties to the detriment of the Council in future negotiations

Having considered the competing public interest factors, the Council has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. Accordingly, the information is withheld under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

3) The record of the officer visit of 17 April 2026 (for example, a visit note, file note or report), and any internal notes or correspondence about the suitability of the property.

This information is not held by Westmorland and Furness Council.

4) Any recorded information about the property having been "sold subject to contract", including the date the Council learned of this.

This information is not held by Westmorland and Furness Council.

5) Any capital-funding records or correspondence relating to the acquisition of replacement provision for Grisedale Croft.

We can confirm that Westmorland and Furness Council holds this information.

However, the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 22(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as it is intended for future publication.

At the time your request was received, the information was already held with a view to publication, and the Council intends to publish this information at a future date. It is therefore considered reasonable in all the circumstances to withhold the information until publication.

As Section 22 is a qualified exemption, it therefore requires a public interest test. This is set out as follows -

Factors in favour of disclosure -

Promoting openness and transparency

Increasing public understanding of the Council's decisions

Factors in favour of maintaining the exemption -

There is an intention to publish the information in the near future

Releasing the information in response to an individual request would circumvent the planned publication process

Publication will ensure the information is released in its final, verified form and is available to all interested parties at the same time

Having considered the above, the council has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure at this time.

The information will therefore be withheld under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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You are free to use any information supplied in this response for your own non-commercial research or private study purposes. The information may also be used for any other purpose allowed by a limitation or exception in copyright law, such as news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing the information in analogue or digital form, including on the internet, will require the permission of the copyright owner. Where the copyright owner is the council you will need to make an application under the Re-use of Public Sector Information

Regulations 2005.

For information where the copyright is owned by another person or organisation you must apply to the owner to obtain their permission.

If you have any issues regarding this letter you should contact the council in the first instance to attempt to resolve them.

You can request an internal review within 40 days of receiving the response to your original request. If you would like to request a review, please contact the Information Governance Team using the below details.

- T: 01539 637437
- E: complaints@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner (ICO) at: Information Commissioner's Officer, Wycliffe House, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or by telephoning 0303 123 1113. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Information Governance procedure provided by Westmorland and Furness Council.

Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

21 May 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-208440-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about Grisedale Croft Care Home received on Thu, 23 Apr 2026.

Request

1. The full Cabinet report, all appendices, and all impact assessments (Equality Impact Assessment, Integrated Impact Assessment, and any Data Protection Impact Assessment) relating to the decision taken by Cabinet on 21 April 2026 concerning the future of Grisedale Croft Care Home, Alston, to the extent that any of these are not already published on the Council's website.
2. All versions of the options appraisal considered by officers (including drafts prepared for the Directorate Management Team, Corporate Management Team or any officer board) relating to the future of Grisedale Croft, from 1 April 2023 to date.
3. Any legal advice, or a summary of legal advice, placed before Cabinet concerning the Council's duties under the Care Act 2014, the Equality Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998 in relation to this decision, so far as it can lawfully be disclosed.
4. Minutes, redacted as necessary, of any Cabinet, Leadership Team, Corporate Management Team or officer board meeting from 1 January 2025 onwards at which

the future of Grisedale Croft was discussed.

5. At 31 March of each year from 2020 to the latest available year: the number of registered beds at Grisedale Croft, the number of beds open for admission, the number of permanent residents, and the number of respite and intermediate-care / step-down residents.
6. For registered manager, deputy manager, senior care workers and care workers at Grisedale Croft: the budgeted full-time-equivalent establishment, the actual FTE in post, and the vacancy rate, at 31 March of each year from 2020 to the latest available year.
7. For each financial year from 2020/21 to the latest closed year: the total gross running cost of Grisedale Croft; the total income (broken down by Council-funded residents, self-funders, NHS-funded residents, other); and the net cost per occupied bed-day, calculated on the same basis as the Council uses for its other in-house homes.
8. The per-occupied-bed-day net cost figures for each of the Council's other in-house residential homes for the same years, for comparison.
9. For each financial year from 2020/21 to the latest closed year: the number of referrals received for admission to Grisedale Croft, broken down by referrer (Council social worker, Council Discharge to Assess team, Council commissioning team, NHS Discharge to Assess, self-funder enquiry, other) and by outcome (admitted, offered and declined, not offered).
10. Any internal policy or guidance issued to Council social workers, hospital discharge teams, brokerage staff or commissioning staff concerning the use of Grisedale Croft, from 1 April 2023 onwards.
11. Confirmation of whether Grisedale Croft has at any time since 1 April 2023 been excluded from the Council's preferred-provider list, step-down bed contract, Discharge to Assess framework, or equivalent commissioning vehicle; and if so, the reasons.
12. The most recent building condition survey and any stock condition report for Grisedale Croft (and any preceding report since 2018), together with any engineers'

or architects' assessments of whether the building can be refurbished or extended.

13. Any feasibility study, site-search report, options appraisal, or correspondence with potential site owners concerning the Council's stated preferred option of providing alternative accommodation in a suitable building in the local area, including -

- (a) the geographic search radius
- (b) the sites considered
- (c) cost estimates
- (d) a timetable
- (e) the source of capital funding.

14. Confirmation of whether the Council has ruled out a new-build facility on or adjacent to the existing Grisedale Croft site; and if so, the reasons and supporting evidence.

15. Any correspondence since 1 April 2023 between the Council and Homes England, the Department of Health and Social Care, NHS North East and North Cumbria ICB, NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB, or any other body, regarding capital funding for replacement adult social care provision on Alston Moor.

16. For each financial year from 2020/21 to the latest completed year, the number of Westmorland and Furness residents aged 65 or over whose home address was within the Alston Moor parish and who had a Discharge to Assess (Pathway 2) placement in a bedded setting after discharge from hospital. For each placement, in aggregate form to protect privacy: the care home used or category, the distance by road from Alston, and the duration of the Pathway 2 stay.

17. For the same cohort, the number offered Grisedale Croft as an option and the number for whom Grisedale Croft was not offered, with the recorded reason where available.

18. The Council's internal policy or guidance document setting out how Discharge to Assess Pathway 2 placements are allocated between in-house and independent providers, and any specific guidance relating to Alston Moor residents.

19. The Council's most recent estimate of the current number of Alston Moor

residents who (a) receive a residential or nursing placement funded wholly or partly by the Council, and (b) receive a home-care package funded wholly or partly by the Council; by age band (18–64, 65–74, 75–84, 85+) and by whether the placement or package is inside or outside the Alston Moor parish.

20. The Council's projection of need for residential, dementia, respite and intermediate-care bed-days on Alston Moor over the next 5, 10 and 20 years, and the assumptions underlying the projection.

21. Any Joint Strategic Needs Assessment extract or Public Health analysis specific to Alston Moor and older people.

22. The Equality Impact Assessment completed to inform the Cabinet decision of 21 April 2026 concerning Grisedale Croft, in full and unredacted save where redaction is legally required.

23. Any preceding Equality Impact Assessment drafts produced during the development of the proposal.

24. Any internal analysis or briefing considering the impact of the proposal on residents, their families and carers with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, particularly age and disability (including dementia).

25. A description of the consultation methods the Council will use to engage residents of Grisedale Croft who lack capacity, and any independent advocacy that will be provided, including the provider of that advocacy.

26. Any Rural Proofing assessment undertaken in relation to this proposal (as recommended by Defra's Rural Proofing Guidance).

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

Please find attached the response to the request for information, along with four supporting documents.

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Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

4 June 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-211341-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about the two NHS-designated re-ablement / intermediate care beds at Grisedale Croft Care Home, Alston received on Wed, 20 May 2026.

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information held by Westmorland and Furness Council, or inherited by it from its predecessor authority Cumbria County Council on 1 April 2023, in relation to the two NHS-designated re-ablement / intermediate care beds at Grisedale Croft Care Home, Church Road, Alston, CA9 3QS.

1. The criteria document or documents governing eligibility for admission to the two NHS-designated re-ablement / intermediate care beds at Grisedale Croft, including any version or versions issued to referrers - general practitioners, district nurses, and hospital discharge teams - from the date of the beds' designation (on or around 2017–18) to the present.
2. All records of admissions to those beds from their designation to the present, including for each admission: the date of admission, the duration of stay, and the discharge destination or recorded outcome.

3. All financial records relating to payment for occupancy of the NHS-designated beds, including invoices rendered, payment schedules, and settlement or reconciliation accounts, from the date of designation to the present.
4. All commissioning agreements, service level agreements, memoranda of understanding, block-booking arrangements, or other formal documents — between the Council (or Cumbria County Council) and any NHS body — governing the designation, operation, or funding of those beds.
5. All correspondence between the Council (or Cumbria County Council) and any NHS body — including the former North Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board, Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, and North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust — regarding the criteria, referral pathway, operation, review, amendment, or suspension of the NHS-designated beds, from 1 April 2017 to the present.

If the Council considers that any part of this request engages a qualified exemption under the Act, I ask that it applies the public interest test and provides as much of the information as is releasable, identifying any withheld material clearly.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

Please see attached Council's response.

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Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

2 June 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-211351-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about capital and maintenance expenditure on Grisedale Croft Care Home, Alston received on Wed, 20 May 2026.

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information held by Westmorland and Furness Council, or inherited by it from Cumbria County Council on 1 April 2023, in relation to the building and premises of Grisedale Croft Care Home, Church Road, Alston, CA9 3QS.

1. All records of capital expenditure on the Grisedale Croft building and premises from 1 April 2015 to the date of this request, including but not limited to: works to the roof; installation, replacement, or refurbishment of the passenger lift; installation or replacement of fire detection, alarm, or suppression systems; installation or replacement of emergency power generation equipment; redecoration or refurbishment of bedrooms, bathrooms, corridors, or communal rooms; and any works to the attached flatted accommodation on the same site.
2. All building condition surveys, structural assessments, fire risk assessments, asbestos surveys, electrical condition reports, or similar inspection or certification reports relating to the Grisedale Croft building and premises from 1 April 2015 to the

date of this request.

3. All planned maintenance schedules, asset management plans, or capital investment plans relating to the Grisedale Croft building and premises from 1 April 2015 to the date of this request.

4. All internal reports, briefing notes, or correspondence in which the physical condition, suitability, or fitness for purpose of the Grisedale Croft building is cited as a factor in any proposed operational change, from 1 April 2018 to the date of this request.

If the Council considers that any part of this request engages a qualified exemption under the Act, I ask that it applies the public interest test and provides as much of the information as is releasable, identifying any withheld material clearly.

Response

Thank you for your request for information relating to Grisedale Croft Care Home. The Council has considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We are refusing your request under Section 12(1) of the Act, as the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit.

Your request covers a lengthy period (from April 2015 to date) and seeks a wide range of information, including capital expenditure records, surveys and inspection reports, maintenance plans, and internal correspondence. The information is not held centrally and would require searches across multiple systems, service areas, and archived records.

To locate, retrieve, and extract all relevant information would require a significant amount of officer time, substantially exceeding the cost limit set out in the Act (18 hours / £450). For this reason, the Council is not obliged to comply with the request.

Advice and Assistance

To assist you in submitting a refined request which may fall within the cost limit, you may wish to: Limit the timeframe (for example, to a 12-month period)
Restrict the request to specific information types (e.g. fire risk assessments only, or capital expenditure only)

Focus on particular works or projects (e.g. lift works or fire safety systems)

If you wish to submit a revised request, please send it

to: information.governance@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

If you have any issues regarding this letter you should contact the council in the first instance to attempt to resolve them.

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Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

15 June 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-211895-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about Consultation process, decision-making and Gunning compliance for Grisedale Croft received on Tue, 26 May 2026.

Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 relating to the consultation on the future of Grisedale Croft Care Home, Alston, launched following the Cabinet decision of the 21st April 2026.

Please confirm -

1a) The consultation document for Grisedale Croft

1b) The full list of consultees

1c) The distribution plan

1d) How residents without internet access on Alston Moor will be reached

2a) Confirmation of the start date, end date, and scheduled decision date of the consultation

2b) The names of the officer and the Cabinet member with responsibility for analysing responses

3a) Confirmation of whether the final decision will be taken by Cabinet, by full Council, or under delegated authority by the Director of Adult Care

4a) Confirmation of whether and how the outcome will be scrutinised by the relevant Scrutiny Committee(s)

4b) Whether a call-in procedure is available

5) Any protocol or internal guidance governing how the Council responds to representations from a Parish Council, Town Council, MP or Member of the House of Lords during the consultation period

The Cabinet report dated the 21st April 2026 states at paragraph 9.5 -

"Whilst a potentially suitable property has been identified, the Council has not had a conditional offer accepted."

The Council's response to question 13 of FOI-208440-2026 (received 22 May 2026) states that no feasibility study, site-search report, options appraisal, or correspondence with potential site owners has been undertaken to date in relation to the provision of alternative accommodation.

Please therefore provide -

5a) Any document, note, email, or other record that identifies the property referred to in paragraph 9.5 of the Cabinet report, or records how it came to the Council's attention

5b) Any document, note, email, or other record of any communication — whether formal or informal, written or otherwise — between any Council officer or member and any person with an interest in that property, prior to the Cabinet meeting of 21 April 2026

5c) Confirmation of whether any Council officer or member visited the property prior to the Cabinet meeting of 21 April 2026

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1a) The consultation document for Grisedale Croft

This is the link to the online consultation document and survey -

<https://consult.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/adult-social-care/grisedale-croft/>

Please also find attached the print version of the consultation document.

1b) The full list of consultees

We welcome consultation responses, comments and questions from any individual or group.

The following audiences and stakeholders have been identified as part of the consultation process -

Internal:

Grisedale Croft

- Care home residents
- Residents' families and carers
- Care home staff

Westmorland and Furness Council members

- Cabinet members
- Council Leader and deputy leader
- ASC Portfolio holder
- Eden Locality Board
- All members
- Health and Scrutiny Panel

W&F staff/Adult Social Care staff

- Adults DMT
- Wider ASC staff
- Other W&F care home/Care Services staff
- CEO and CMT/SLT
- Eden Locality Manager and Eden Community team
- Trade Unions
- Customer services (Single Point of Access - SPA) staff (enquiries)

External:

Health and social care partners

- Alston Medical Practice
- Cumberland Council
- NHS partners

Alston Moor community

- Local residents, carers

- Potential future care home residents
- Alston Moor community groups
- Alston Moor Parish Council/members
- Penrith and the Solway MP

Advocacy

- N-Compass
- Westmorland & Furness Healthwatch

Westmorland and Furness community

- All residents/council tax payers

1c) The distribution plan

The consultation document is available online, and print copies have been made available in Alston Library, Nenthead Village Shop and Garrigill Post Office.

These have been reprinted and resupplied in response to demand. 550 copies have been distributed as of June 2026.

A member of the community offered to distribute 100 paper copies to older residents at the same time as another communication. This was accepted, and 100 Freepost envelopes supplied in addition.

1d) How residents without internet access on Alston Moor will be reached

Print copies of the consultation pack have been made available at three locations, Alston Library, Nenthead Village Shop and Garrigill Post Office.

Posters about the consultation, including details of where to get paper copies, and dates of all drop-in information sessions, were supplied on Friday the 15th May to these venues and also:

- Mad Hatters Hardware Shop
- TLC Hair Design
- Cobbles Café
- Co-op noticeboard
- Alston Post Office noticeboard
- Alston Pharmacy
- Age UK Carlisle and Eden shop
- Saddlers Bakery Bistro
- Nenthead Village Hall noticeboard

- Alston Spar noticeboard

Drop-in information events have been arranged as follows. These are an opportunity for one-to-one conversations with officers, and are also particularly valuable for older or vulnerable residents who do not have internet access and may need support to take part in the consultation and complete the consultation survey.

- Wednesday the 3rd June, Alston Library, 11.00am - 1.00pm
- Monday the 15th June, Alston Library, 5.00pm - 7.00pm
- Friday the 26th June, The Hive, Nenthead, 10.30am - 12.30pm
- Friday the 26th June, Garrigill Village Hall, 2.00pm - 4.00pm
- Wednesday the 1st July, Alston Library, 2.00pm - 4.00pm
- Monday the 20th July, Alston Library, 11.00am - 1.00pm

A door-to-door leaflet distribution is planned for all Alston postcodes at the beginning of July to update and inform all residents of the consultation, and that there are still 4 to 5 weeks left to take part.

2a) Confirmation of the start date, end date, and scheduled decision date of the consultation

The Consultation period is 12 weeks, from Thursday the 14th May to Wednesday the 5th August 2026

There is no set date scheduled for a decision, but sufficient time will need to be allowed for all information provided to be considered meaningfully and analysed. We will also need to have identified potential suitable accommodation and costed this.

2b) The names of the officer and the Cabinet member with responsibility for analysing responses

A report will be produced on the Consultation responses and will be taken into account by the decision maker.

3a) Confirmation of whether the final decision will be taken by Cabinet, by full Council, or under delegated authority by the Director of Adult Care

The decision has been delegated by the Cabinet to be made by the Director of Adult Social Care.

4a) Confirmation of whether and how the outcome will be scrutinised by the relevant Scrutiny Committee(s)

We are exploring the possibility of involving Scrutiny before a decision is taken.

4b) Whether a call-in procedure is available

Yes, all key decisions are subject to call in.

5) Any protocol or internal guidance governing how the Council responds to representations from a Parish Council, Town Council, MP or Member of the House of Lords during the consultation period

All consultation responses will be considered irrespective of whom they are from, and a report will be produced outlining all the points made.

The Cabinet report dated the 21st April 2026 states at paragraph 9.5 -

"Whilst a potentially suitable property has been identified, the Council has not had a conditional offer accepted."

The Council's response to question 13 of FOI-208440-2026 (received 22 May 2026) states that no feasibility study, site-search report, options appraisal, or correspondence with potential site owners has been undertaken to date in relation to the provision of alternative accommodation.

Please therefore provide -

5a) Any document, note, email, or other record that identifies the property referred to in paragraph 9.5 of the Cabinet report, or records how it came to the Council's attention

We understand that that property has now been sold subject to contract, but discussions are taking place on a confidential basis about another potential property. Please see further explanation below.

5b) Any document, note, email, or other record of any communication - whether formal or informal, written or otherwise - between any Council officer or member and any person with an interest in that property, prior to the Cabinet meeting of 21 April 2026

As soon as a suitable location has been identified and a conditional contract or option is entered into, the Council will introduce the location into the consultation process. Please see further explanation below.

5c) Confirmation of whether any Council officer or member visited the property prior to the Cabinet meeting of 21 April 2026

An officer visited the property on 17th April 2026.

Further explanation relating to questions 5a & 5b -

Whilst we can confirm that Westmorland and Furness Council holds some of the information you have requested, we consider that the information held is exempt from disclosure under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) relating to Commercial Interest, and therefore I regret to inform you that the Council will not be releasing it. This is because it considers that the disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any party.

In this case, the information relates to a proposed property acquisition which is not finalised. Disclosure at this stage would be likely to prejudice the Council's commercial position by -

- Undermining its ability to negotiate effectively

- Potentially increasing the purchase price

- Revealing sensitive information to third parties, including competing buyers or sellers

This would have a direct impact on the Council's ability to secure best value for public funds.

As Section 43(2) of FOIA, is a qualified exemption, it requires a Public Interest Test to be undertaken. We have undertaken said test to ascertain whether the public interest is best served by the disclosure or the withholding of the information.

The public interest test is set out below:

The Council recognises there is a public interest in -

- Transparency and accountability in how public funds are used

- Ensuring openness in the decision-making process

However, we consider that the public interest is better served by withholding the information at this time, as disclosure would -

Prejudice ongoing commercial negotiations
Reduce the Council's ability to achieve best value
Potentially result in increased costs to the public purse

In considering all these factors, it is concluded that in all the circumstances of this case, we find that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

This response therefore serves as a formal refusal notice under Section 17 of FOIA.

Disclaimer

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Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

15 June 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-212846-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about Health and Wellbeing Board (Grisedale Croft / Alston Moor intermediate care) received on Wed, 03 Jun 2026.

Request

It concerns the Westmorland and Furness Health and Wellbeing Board (the "Board"), covering the period from the establishment of Westmorland and Furness Council on 1 April 2023 to the date of this request, together with any shadow or transitional Health and Wellbeing Board arrangements operating before that date.

For the purposes of this request, the "relevant subject matter" means any one or more of the following:

- (a) Grisedale Croft Care Home, Alston;
- (b) the proposed closure of Grisedale Croft and the current public consultation on its future;
- (c) intermediate care, step-down or re-ablement provision for the residents of Alston Moor, whether at Grisedale Croft or elsewhere;
- (d) inpatient, step-down or intermediate-care beds associated with the Ruth Lancaster James Community Hospital, Alston; and
- (e) the adequacy, sufficiency or future of residential or intermediate

adult care provision in Alston Moor more generally.

Please provide the following recorded information that relates, in whole or in part, to the relevant subject matter:

1. Any agenda or agenda item of the Board.
2. Any minute or record of proceedings of the Board.
3. Any report, briefing or supporting paper presented or circulated to the Board, including papers presented to any sub-committee, working group or task-and-finish group of the Board.
4. Any decision, recommendation, resolution or action recorded by the Board.
5. Any passage in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, or in any Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (or any document serving the equivalent function under a different title), that has been prepared, adopted, reviewed or refreshed by the Board.

Response

The information you have requested is available to you by other means and is therefore exempt under s.21 of the FOIA.

The details of how to obtain the information you have requested is given below: All Health and Wellbeing Board reports, minutes and decisions are published and available on the Council website, including the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessments.

There is no information on matters a-e recorded in any of the Health and Wellbeing Board documents listed in the request (numbers 1-5).

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=271>

Where the documents are available electronically and you do not have internet access, you can use the facilities at your local library. If you cannot access local library facilities please contact me again and a copy of the information can be

supplied. Please note: a charge may be made for providing copies. Details of copying charges can be found on the council's website

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Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

10 August 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-212992-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about Grisedale Croft Care Home: building expenditure figures, condition reports and maintenance plans received on Mon, 08 Jun 2026.

Request

This is a refined version of request FOI-211351-2026, narrowed in light of the section 12 response of 2 June 2026 and the advice and assistance it offered.

It asks for recorded figures and a finite set of named documents only, and it does not repeat the request for internal reports, briefing notes or correspondence (part 4 of the original). Please treat each item as severable and advise under section 16 on any that would exceed the cost limit.

For the building and premises of Grisedale Croft Care Home, Church Road, Alston, CA9 3QS -

1. For each financial year from 2015/16 to 2025/26 inclusive, the recorded total figures only — not the underlying invoices, files or correspondence — for: (a) capital expenditure on the building and premises; and (b) revenue expenditure on repairs and maintenance of the building and premises. A single figure per year per category from the finance or asset

ledger is sufficient. For years before 1 April 2023, please use the figures inherited from Cumbria County Council. If figures for any year are not held, please say so for that year.

2. A list of the building condition surveys, structural assessments, fire risk assessments, asbestos surveys and electrical installation condition reports held for the building, with the date of each; and a copy of the most recent of each type. To avoid duplicating the internal review of FOI-208440-2026, I am not asking again for the December 2023 Mechanical and Electrical Survey or the May 2024 Decarbonisation plan, which are sought there.

3. The current planned maintenance schedule for the building, or the most recent one held; and any asset management plan or capital investment plan entry that refers to the building, current or most recent. If no such schedule, plan or entry is held, please confirm that.

Where a document engages a qualified exemption, please apply the public-interest test and release as much as is releasable, identifying any withheld material. Where information is not held, please say so explicitly.

This information bears on a public consultation closing on 5 August 2026, so a response within the statutory 20 working days matters.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1) For each financial year from 2015/16 to 2025/26 inclusive, the recorded total figures only - not the underlying invoices, files or correspondence - for:

- (a) capital expenditure on the building and premises; and
- (b) revenue expenditure on repairs and maintenance of the building and premises.

A single figure per year per category from the finance or asset ledger is sufficient. For years before 1 April 2023, please use the figures inherited from Cumbria County Council. If figures for any year are not held, please say so for that year.

Please see the attached documents in response.

As the current system Concerto was only brought in in 2020, we are unable to provide information prior to this date

2) A list of the building condition surveys, structural assessments, fire risk assessments, asbestos surveys and electrical installation condition reports held for the building, with the date of each; and a copy of the most recent of each type. To avoid duplicating the internal review of FOI-208440-2026, I am not asking again for the December 2023 Mechanical and Electrical Survey or the May 2024 Decarbonisation plan, which are sought there.

Please see the attached documents in response.

The last condition survey of all fabric, mechanical and electrical elements was undertaken in 2017. The last condition survey of the fabric was undertaken in 2022.

3) The current planned maintenance schedule for the building, or the most recent one held; and any asset management plan or capital investment plan entry that refers to the building, current or most recent. If no such schedule, plan or entry is held, please confirm that.

Westmorland and Furness council can confirm that there is no current planned maintenance schedule for the building.

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Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

24 July 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-214232-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about Grisedale Croft Care Home: the 2017–2018 Alston Moor integrated care commitments and the Council's successor-authority position received on Sun, 21 Jun 2026.

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information relating to Grisedale Croft Care Home and integrated care arrangements for Alston Moor.

1. Correspondence between Westmorland and Furness Council (and Cumbria County Council as predecessor) and:
 - a) NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board; and/or
 - b) North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trustdated between 1 April 2023 and the present, concerning the review, amendment, reduction, suspension or future of the NHS-designated reablement/intermediate care beds at Grisedale Croft, including any correspondence relating to the current consultation on the future of the care home as it affects those beds.
2. Any report, options appraisal, or briefing note prepared for, or considered by, the Corporate Management Team or Cabinet between 1 January 2024 and the present, in which the physical condition, suitability, or fitness for purpose of the Grisedale

Croft building is relied upon as a reason for proposed closure or change of use (excluding documents already disclosed under FOI-208440-2026).

3. All versions and drafts of the integrated care plan for Alston Moor (referred to as "The Alston Plan" or "Alston Alliance Plan"), including:

- Terms of reference
- Membership and governance documents
- Minutes and board papers
- Correspondence relating to its development and oversight

4. Records confirming whether the Council considers itself bound by, or successor to, commitments made by Cumbria County Council in relation to these arrangements, and any records of those commitments being reviewed or amended since 1 April 2023.

5. All records relating to the designated step-down or intermediate care beds at Grisedale Croft, including:

- Number of beds
- Admission criteria
- Referral arrangements

6. Aggregate data on admissions to these beds, showing the number of admissions per year from 2017 to the present.

7. Financial and commissioning records relating to these beds, including:

- Service-level or commissioning agreements
- Nightly rates and payments
- NHS funding contributions
- Income received by the Council or its predecessor

8. Correspondence between the Council (including Cumbria County Council as predecessor) and NHS bodies concerning the funding, commissioning, operation, or winding-down of these beds from 2017 to the present.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

Please find attached our partial response to your request. Question 4 remains outstanding.

We are currently working with our Legal colleagues to review the matter and will provide a substantive response as soon as possible.

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Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

10 August 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-216093-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about Grisedale Croft Care Home - records of the identified replacement property received on Mon, 13 Jul 2026.

Request

This request concerns the property referred to in paragraph 9.5 of the Cabinet report of 21 April 2026 on the future of Grisedale Croft Care Home, Alston ("a potentially suitable property has been identified"), and the property matters confirmed in the Council's response of 17 June 2026 to FOI-211895-2026 (an officer visit on 17 April 2026; the property "sold subject to contract"; discussions on a confidential basis about another potential property).

Please provide the recorded information the Council holds about the property or properties identified as potential replacement provision for Grisedale Croft, including -

- 1) The fact and date on which each property was identified, and how it came to the Council's attention.
- 2) Any particulars, valuation, condition or cost information held for each property.

3) The record of the officer visit of 17 April 2026 (for example, a visit note, file note or report), and any internal notes or correspondence about the suitability of the property.

4) Any recorded information about the property having been "sold subject to contract", including the date the Council learned of this.

5) Any capital-funding records or correspondence relating to the acquisition of replacement provision for Grisedale Croft.

I recognise that some of this information may be commercially sensitive. Where the Council considers section 43(2) (or any other exemption) applies, please apply it to the specific information engaged and release the remainder, and for anything withheld please provide a refusal notice with the public-interest balance, rather than treating the request as "not held". Where a property is no longer in contention (for example, one already sold), the commercial sensitivity is likely to be reduced and I would ask the Council to reconsider disclosure accordingly.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1) The fact and date on which each property was identified, and how it came to the Council's attention.

Officers have located potentially suitable properties on Rightmove.

2) Any particulars, valuation, condition or cost information held for each property.

We can confirm that Westmorland and Furness Council holds information within the scope of your request.

However, the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to information whose disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice commercial interests.

The requested information includes details relating to the valuation, condition and cost information of Council-owned care homes. Disclosure of this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the Council by revealing commercially sensitive information concerning the value and operation of these assets. Such disclosure could weaken the Council's position in future

commercial negotiations, procurement activities, property transactions, or other market-related activities.

Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption, and we have therefore considered the public interest in disclosure against the public interest in maintaining the exemption. These are set out as follows -

Factors favouring disclosure:

Promoting transparency and accountability in the use of public funds

Increasing public understanding of how Council assets are managed and their plans going forward

Factors favouring maintaining the exemption:

Preventing prejudice to the Council's commercial interests

Protecting the Council's ability to secure best value in future negotiations and transactions

Avoiding the disclosure of commercially sensitive information that could be used by third parties to the detriment of the Council in future negotiations

Having considered the competing public interest factors, the Council has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. Accordingly, the information is withheld under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

3) The record of the officer visit of 17 April 2026 (for example, a visit note, file note or report), and any internal notes or correspondence about the suitability of the property.

This information is not held by Westmorland and Furness Council.

4) Any recorded information about the property having been "sold subject to contract", including the date the Council learned of this.

This information is not held by Westmorland and Furness Council.

5) Any capital-funding records or correspondence relating to the acquisition of replacement provision for Grisedale Croft.

We can confirm that Westmorland and Furness Council holds this information.

However, the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 22(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as it is intended for future publication.

At the time your request was received, the information was already held with a view to publication, and the Council intends to publish this information at a future date. It

is therefore considered reasonable in all the circumstances to withhold the information until publication.

As Section 22 is a qualified exemption, it therefore requires a public interest test. This is set out as follows -

Factors in favour of disclosure -

Promoting openness and transparency

Increasing public understanding of the Council's decisions

Factors in favour of maintaining the exemption -

There is an intention to publish the information in the near future

Releasing the information in response to an individual request would circumvent the planned publication process

Publication will ensure the information is released in its final, verified form and is available to all interested parties at the same time

Having considered the above, the council has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure at this time.

The information will therefore be withheld under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

18 August 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-216762-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about if the proposed closure of Grisedale Croft & Applethwaite Green care homes relate to the councils savings programme received on Mon, 20 Jul 2026.

Request

We are seeking information about the council's current financial position, the reported risk of a Section 114 notice, and the extent to which proposed care home closures form part of the council's savings programme.

Please provide the following information:

1. Any reports, briefing papers, business cases, financial appraisals, option appraisals, savings schedules, risk assessments, or internal documents produced since 1 April 2024 which refer to proposed or potential savings from the closure, sale, disposal, reprovion, transfer, or redesign of council-run care homes.
2. For each council-run care home currently subject to consultation, please provide:
 - the estimated annual revenue saving from closure;
 - any estimated capital receipt, if sale or disposal is being considered;
 - any estimated one-off closure, transfer, redundancy, legal, consultancy, or

relocation costs;

- the estimated net saving over one year, three years, and five years;
- the budget heading or savings programme under which the proposed saving is recorded.

3. Please identify whether any savings expected from care home closures are included in the council's published 2026/27 savings programme, Medium-Term Financial Plan, transformation programme, or any plan intended to avoid the issuing of a Section 114 notice.

4. Please provide any documents showing how the council intends to achieve the approximately £40 million of savings reported as necessary over three years to avoid a Section 114 notice, including any breakdown by directorate, service area, project, or savings category.

5. Please provide any documents, reports, meeting papers, minutes, or briefing notes which refer to the relationship between adult social care savings, care home closures, and the council's overall financial recovery or transformation programme.

6. Please provide any equality impact assessments, care impact assessments, risk assessments, or consultation analysis documents that consider the financial implications of closing care homes alongside the impact on residents, families, staff, and local communities.

7. Please confirm whether the proposed closure of any council-run care home has been identified internally as contributing to savings required to avoid, delay, or reduce the risk of a Section 114 notice. If so, please state the amount attributed to each home.

8. Please provide any correspondence, reports, or briefing materials sent to elected members, Cabinet members, scrutiny committees, the Chief Executive, the Section 151 Officer, or the Director of Adult Social Care which discuss care home closures in the context of the council's financial deficit, savings requirement, or Section 114 risk.

For clarity, we are not requesting personal information about individual care home residents, staff members, or families. We are seeking financial, strategic, policy, and decision-making information.

Where information is held in draft form, please provide the most recent version. Where information is withheld, please identify the exemption relied upon and explain why it applies.

We would prefer to receive the information electronically.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1. Any reports, briefing papers, business cases, financial appraisals, option appraisals, savings schedules, risk assessments, or internal documents produced since 1 April 2024 which refer to proposed or potential savings from the closure, sale, disposal, reprovion, transfer, or redesign of council-run care homes.

The only applicable document is the cabinet report which is available in the public domain.

2. For each council-run care home currently subject to consultation, please provide:

- **the estimated annual revenue saving from closure**
- **any estimated capital receipt, if sale or disposal is being considered**
- **any estimated one-off closure, transfer, redundancy, legal, consultancy, or relocation costs**
- **the estimated net saving over one year, three years, and five years**
- **the budget heading or savings programme under which the proposed saving is recorded**

Westmorland and Furness Council does not hold any information in relation to these points.

3. Please identify whether any savings expected from care home closures are included in the council's published 2026/27 savings programme, Medium-Term Financial Plan, transformation programme, or any plan intended to avoid the issuing of a Section 114 notice.

The Council's 2026/27 savings are published in the budget setting report and the Medium Term Financial Plan, available here -

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=222&MId=14058&Ver=4>

Adult Social Care savings come from Independence Reviews and Carers Review.

4. Please provide any documents showing how the council intends to achieve the approximately £40 million of savings reported as necessary over three years to avoid a Section 114 notice, including any breakdown by directorate, service area, project, or savings category.

This information is not held by Westmorland and Furness Council. The Council is currently developing budget saving proposals to reduce and eliminate the budget gap that resulted from the significant Fair Funding multi-year settlement reduction.

5. Please provide any documents, reports, meeting papers, minutes, or briefing notes which refer to the relationship between adult social care savings, care home closures, and the council's overall financial recovery or transformation programme.

Savings from Adult Social Care are included in the 2026/27 budget setting report and the Medium Term Financial Plan, available here -

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=222&MId=14058&Ver=4>

The value for 2026/27 is £0.560m from Independence Reviews and Carers Review.

Savings from Adult Social Care were included in the 2025/26 budget setting report and Medium Term Financial Plan, available here -

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=222&MId=257&Ver=4>

The value by 2026/27 was £5.500m from the Promoting Independence programme and Adults Reshaping.

Savings from Adult Social Care were included in the 2024/25 budget setting report and Medium Term Financial Plan, available here -

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=222&MId=250&Ver=4>

The value by 2026/27 was £2.625m from Service Improvements and Delivery of Integrated Care and Community Equipment service.

Savings from Adult Social Care were included in the 2023/24 budget setting report and Medium Term Financial Plan, available here -

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=138&MId=112>

The value by 2026/27 was £3.351m from the Community Equipment service and Fees and Charges.

Regarding future savings proposals, this information is not held by Westmorland and Furness Council. The Council is currently developing budget saving proposals to reduce and eliminate the budget gap that resulted from the significant Fair Funding multi-year settlement reduction.

The Transformation Programme was approved in March 2026, available here -

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=223&MId=14095&Ver=4>

This references £5.75m of savings in 2026/27 and these are already included in the Medium Term Financial Plan. Adult Social Care is part of the People, Place, Prevention: Test, Learn, Grow transformation theme. A presentation was provided to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, available here -

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=258&MId=14589&Ver=4>

6. Please provide any equality impact assessments, care impact assessments, risk assessments, or consultation analysis documents that consider the financial implications of closing care homes alongside the impact on residents, families, staff, and local communities.

The only one currently available has previously been published by the council.

7. Please confirm whether the proposed closure of any council-run care home has been identified internally as contributing to savings required to avoid, delay, or reduce the risk of a Section 114 notice. If so, please state the amount attributed to each home.

Regarding future savings proposals, as mentioned above, this information is not held by Westmorland and Furness Council. The Council is currently developing budget saving proposals to reduce and eliminate the budget gap that resulted from the significant Fair Funding multi-year settlement reduction.

8. Please provide any correspondence, reports, or briefing materials sent to elected members, Cabinet members, scrutiny committees, the Chief Executive, the Section 151 Officer, or the Director of Adult Social Care which discuss care home closures in the context of the council's financial deficit, savings requirement, or Section 114 risk.

We do not have any correspondence, reports, or briefing materials that discuss care home closures in the context of the Council's budget gap that resulted from the significant Fair Funding multi-year settlement reduction. The Council's budget setting report does not discuss a Section 114 risk, and the Council is currently developing budget saving proposals to reduce and eliminate the budget gap.

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Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

21 August 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-217134-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about evidence relied on the 16 July 2026 public meeting for Grisedale Croft Care Home received on Fri, 24 Jul 2026.

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the recorded information described below.

This request concerns claims made by Council officers presenting the Grisedale Croft Care Home consultation at the public meeting held in Alston Town Hall on the 16th July 2026, a copy of whose slides I hold.

1. The primary source document, guidance or publication for the claim, made at slide 5 of the presentation, that "CQC Guidelines recommend at least 12m² for each bedroom". Please confirm whether the Council treats this figure as a binding requirement under Grisedale Croft's current CQC registration, or as guidance applicable to new-build care homes only, and provide any internal analysis, correspondence or advice on this point.
2. The cost-per-resident-per-week and occupancy-ratio figures for every residential care home currently run in-house by the Council, for each of the three most recent

financial years, sufficient to verify the claims made at slide 3 of the presentation that Grisedale Croft has "the highest cost per resident" and "the lowest occupancy ratio" of the homes in the service.

3. The name and location of the Council-run new-build care home from which the example room shown at slide 9 of the presentation is taken, together with that home's cost-per-resident-per-week and occupancy-ratio figures for the same period as requested at question 2.

If any part of this request is unclear, please contact me to clarify it rather than refuse it in whole. If any part falls outside the scope of the Act, please answer the remaining parts.

If complying with any part in full would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please tell me which parts can be answered within it and I will prioritise accordingly, and please provide advice and assistance under section 16 on narrowing.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1. The primary source document, guidance or publication for the claim, made at slide 5 of the presentation, that "CQC Guidelines recommend at least 12m2 for each bedroom". Please confirm whether the Council treats this figure as a binding requirement under Grisedale Croft's current CQC registration, or as guidance applicable to new-build care homes only, and provide any internal analysis, correspondence or advice on this point.

This is guidance that is being adhered to during any natural opportunity for improvement, new build planning or refurbishment.

2. The cost-per-resident-per-week and occupancy-ratio figures for every residential care home currently run in-house by the Council, for each of the three most recent financial years, sufficient to verify the claims made at slide 3 of the presentation that Grisedale Croft has "the highest cost per resident" and "the lowest occupancy ratio" of the homes in the service.

Please see the attached table.

3. The name and location of the Council-run new-build care home from which the example room shown at slide 9 of the presentation is taken, together with that home's cost-per-resident-per-week and occupancy-ratio figures for the same period as requested at question 2.

This relates to Parkview Gardens, Barrow in Furness.

Please see the attached table.

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Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

19 August 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-217258-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about the methodology behind the published cost per resident per week for Council-run care homes including Grisedale Croft & Applethwaite Green received on Fri, 24 Jul 2026.

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the recorded information set out below. It concerns the method by which the Council calculates the cost per resident per week for the care homes it owns and operates, a figure relied on in both current consultations.

This request does not duplicate FOI-208440-2026 or the request for an internal review dated the 31st May 2026, which sought the underlying occupancy and running-cost data. This request concerns the calculation applied to that data. Please treat each numbered item as severable and advise under section 16 on any item that cannot be met within the cost limit.

1. The number of residential care homes the Council currently owns and operates as registered provider, and their names.
2. For each of those homes, the cost per resident per week used in the Council's 2026 consultation material and in the Corporate Management Team options

appraisal, showing in each case:

(a) the total cost figure used

(b) whether that figure is a budget, an in-year forecast or an outturn, and for which financial year

(c) the occupancy figure used as the divisor and the date to which it relates

(d) the number of weeks used in the calculation

3. Any methodology note, calculation model, spreadsheet or guidance recording how the cost per resident per week is derived.

4. The derivation of the centrally attributable overhead rate of 16.7% referred to in the Council's consultation material: what cost headings it comprises, how the percentage was calculated, and the date and author of the document recording it.

5. Any assessment of which elements of that centrally attributable overhead would cease to be incurred by the Council on the closure of a care home, and which would be reapportioned to other services.

6. Any assessment of avoidable and unavoidable costs, or of stranded costs, prepared in relation to the proposed closure or replacement of either Grisedale Croft or Applethwaite Green.

7. For Grisedale Croft specifically: the occupancy figure used as the divisor in the published cost per resident per week, and the date to which that figure relates.

8. Any calculation of the cost per resident per week for Grisedale Croft prepared on the basis of full occupancy of its available beds or of its registered beds, or confirmation that no such calculation is held.

Where the Council holds no information falling within any item, please say so explicitly.

This information bears directly on live consultations closing on 19 August 2026.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1) The number of residential care homes the Council currently owns and operates as registered provider, and their names.

There are 9 residential care homes, their names are listed below in alphabetical order -

Applethwaite Green, Windermere
Bridge House, Flookburgh
Christian Head, Kirkby Stephen
Croftside, Milnthorpe
Elmhurst, Ulverston
Grisedale Croft, Alston
Maudes Meadow, Kendal
Parkview Gardens, Barrow-in-Furness
Riverside House, Kendal

2) For each of those homes, the cost per resident per week used in the Council's 2026 consultation material and in the Corporate Management Team options appraisal, showing in each case -

(a) the total cost figure used

(b) whether that figure is a budget, an in-year forecast or an outturn, and for which financial year

(c) the occupancy figure used as the divisor and the date to which it relates

(d) the number of weeks used in the calculation

Please see attached document (titled FOI-217258-2026 - Q.2) answering the above.

3) Any methodology note, calculation model, spreadsheet or guidance recording how the cost per resident per week is derived.

Cost per resident per week = (Q3 forecast full year revenue costs plus 16.7% overhead) / occupancy / 52.14 weeks

4) The derivation of the centrally attributable overhead rate of 16.7% referred to in the Council's consultation material: what cost headings it comprises, how the percentage was calculated, and the date and author of the document recording it.

It is based on the total costs of applicable overhead services for example enabler, ACE and resources as a percentage of direct cost.

5) Any assessment of which elements of that centrally attributable overhead would cease to be incurred by the Council on the closure of a care home, and which would be reapportioned to other services.

An overhead percentage provided corporately is applied to the relevant revenue costs to reflect the attributable overhead associated with the service. This established corporate overhead methodology has been consistently applied in the calculation to ensure comparability and consistency across the costing.

We are unable to separately quantify the element of the allocated overhead that would cease from the information held within the service, as the overhead allocation is calculated corporately.

6) Any assessment of avoidable and unavoidable costs, or of stranded costs, prepared in relation to the proposed closure or replacement of either Grisedale Croft or Applethwaite Green.

No assessments of this kind have been carried out.

7) For Grisedale Croft specifically: the occupancy figure used as the divisor in the published cost per resident per week, and the date to which that figure relates.

Occupancy figure of 5 based on data from April 2026

8) Any calculation of the cost per resident per week for Grisedale Croft prepared on the basis of full occupancy of its available beds or of its registered beds, or confirmation that no such calculation is held.

Grisedale Croft

(a) cost per resident per week based on full occupancy (registered beds): £1,566

(b) cost per resident per week based on full occupancy (available beds): £2,545

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Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

21 August 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-217259-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about Grisedale Croft and Applethwaite Green Care Homes - comparative data and the decision to consult on them differently received on Fri, 24 Jul 2026.

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the recorded information set out below. It concerns the comparison between Grisedale Croft and Applethwaite Green Care Homes, both owned and operated by the Council, and the Council's decision to consult on their futures on materially different terms.

The consultation on Applethwaite Green presents four options and states that no decisions have been taken about the final outcome. The consultation on Grisedale Croft proceeds on a stated preferred option. Please treat each numbered item as severable, answer those that can be met within the cost limit, and advise under section 16 on any that cannot.

1. For Grisedale Croft and Applethwaite Green, side by side, at 31 March of each year from 2020 to 2026: permanent occupancy, vacancy rate, per-occupied-bed-day net cost, distance to the nearest CQC-rated Good residential, dementia and nursing alternative, and the population of the surrounding parish or ward.

2. Any record of the decision to consult on Grisedale Croft on the basis of a stated preferred option while consulting on Applethwaite Green on the basis of four options presented without preference, and the Council's written reasoning for that difference in approach.
3. Any briefing, report, submission, options paper or advice considered by officers or Cabinet comparing the two homes, including before the 21 April 2026 decision and in connection with the current consultations.
4. Any equality impact assessment, integrated impact assessment or equivalent assessment covering both proposals together, or covering the Council's residential care estate as a whole, as distinct from the separate assessment prepared for each home.
5. Any assessment of the combined effect of both proposals on the availability of residential care places, in either or both areas or across the Council's area as a whole.
6. Any assessment prepared in relation to either proposal by reference to the Council's duty under section 5 of the Care Act 2014 to promote the efficient and effective operation of a market in services for meeting care and support needs.
7. For each home, the record identifying who will take the final decision following consultation, and the delegated authority relied on.
8. Any record of whether that decision will be subject to call-in by an overview and scrutiny committee.

Where the Council holds no information falling within any item, please say so explicitly.

This information bears directly on live consultations closing on 19 August 2026.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1. For Grisedale Croft and Applethwaite Green, side by side, on the 31 March of each year from 2020 to 2026: permanent occupancy, vacancy rate, per-

occupied-bed-day net cost, distance to the nearest CQC-rated Good residential, dementia and nursing alternative, and the population of the surrounding parish or ward.

Please see the attached table.

Also information requested is in the public domain, and available via -

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/care-services>

<https://www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk>

2. Any record of the decision to consult on Grisedale Croft on the basis of a stated preferred option while consulting on Applethwaite Green on the basis of four options presented without preference, and the Council's written reasoning for that difference in approach.

There is no written reasoning for the difference in approach held by the authority.

The papers submitted to cabinet for permission to consult are available.

3. Any briefing, report, submission, options paper or advice considered by officers or Cabinet comparing the two homes, including before the 21 April 2026 decision and in connection with the current consultations.

This information is not held by Westmorland and Furness Council.

4. Any equality impact assessment, integrated impact assessment or equivalent assessment covering both proposals together, or covering the Council's residential care estate as a whole, as distinct from the separate assessment prepared for each home.

None exist.

5. Any assessment of the combined effect of both proposals on the availability of residential care places, in either or both areas or across the Council's area as a whole.

None exist.

6. Any assessment prepared in relation to either proposal by reference to the Council's duty under section 5 of the Care Act 2014 to promote the efficient and effective operation of a market in services for meeting care and support needs.

None exist.

7. For each home, the record identifying who will take the final decision following consultation, and the delegated authority relied on.

As detailed in the consultation documentation, the decision will be made by the Strategic Director of Adult Social Care for each home.

8. Any record of whether that decision will be subject to call-in by an overview and scrutiny committee.

The decision will be subject to the usual call in processes following the decision being made.

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Further information can be found on the council's website.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Customer Name

Customer Address

21 August 2026

Dear Customer Name

Freedom of Information Act 2000, Reference: FOI-217260-2026

The council has completed its search relating to your request about staffing model at Grisedale Croft Care Home - agency and bank staff use and the reasons for it received on Fri, 24 Jul 2026.

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the recorded information set out below. It concerns the staffing model at Grisedale Croft Care Home, specifically the Council's use of agency and bank staff there.

This request does not duplicate the methodology request sent on the 24th July 2026, which concerns how the published cost-per-resident figure is calculated; this request concerns the staffing model underlying that cost, not its calculation. Please treat each numbered item as severable, answer those that can be met within the cost limit, and advise under section 16 on any that cannot.

1. For each financial year from 2020/21 to date: the hours (or shifts) of direct care provided at Grisedale Croft by Council-employed staff, and separately by agency-supplied and bank staff, by role (registered manager, deputy manager, senior care worker, care worker) where held.

2. For the same years: total spend on agency-supplied staff and, separately, on

bank staff at Grisedale Croft.

3. The name of the agency or agencies supplying staff to Grisedale Croft in that period, and whether the Council holds any information on whether the staff supplied were local to the Alston Moor area.

4. Any internal report, briefing or workforce analysis addressing the reasons for the Council's use of agency or bank staff at Grisedale Croft, including any consideration of recruitment or retention difficulties specific to the home's rural location, and any consideration of moving agency-supplied staff onto direct Council contracts.

5. Whether any staff currently supplied to Grisedale Croft through an agency were previously directly employed by the Council (or by Cumbria County Council) in the same or a similar role at the home, and if so, when and why that changed, so far as recorded.

6. The same figures as items 1 and 2, for the same years, for each of the Council's other in-house residential homes, for comparison.

7. Whether agency and bank staff costs are already included within the "gross running cost" and "cost per resident" figures already disclosed to me for Grisedale Croft under FOI-208440-2026, and if not, what proportion of total staffing cost they represent.

Where the Council holds no information falling within any item, please say so explicitly.

Response

The council does hold information within the definition of your request.

1. For each financial year from 2020/21 to date: the hours (or shifts) of direct care provided at Grisedale Croft by Council-employed staff, and separately by agency-supplied and bank staff, by role (registered manager, deputy manager, senior care worker, care worker) where held.

Please see the attached document.

2. For the same years: total spend on agency-supplied staff and, separately, on bank staff at Grisedale Croft.

Please see the attached document.

3. The name of the agency or agencies supplying staff to Grisedale Croft in that period, and whether the Council holds any information on whether the staff supplied were local to the Alston Moor area.

We have used; Greenstaff, AWOL Recruitment – Cook, ICARE, We Care 2.

The Council retains no information as to where the people reside.

4. Any internal report, briefing or workforce analysis addressing the reasons for the Council's use of agency or bank staff at Grisedale Croft, including any consideration of recruitment or retention difficulties specific to the home's rural location, and any consideration of moving agency-supplied staff onto direct Council contracts.

Westmorland and Furness Council can confirm that this information is not held.

5. Whether any staff currently supplied to Grisedale Croft through an agency were previously directly employed by the Council (or by Cumbria County Council) in the same or a similar role at the home, and if so, when and why that changed, so far as recorded.

No agency staff currently supplied to Grisedale Croft have been previously employed by either Westmorland and Furness or Cumbria County Councils.

6. The same figures as items 1 and 2, for the same years, for each of the Council's other in-house residential homes, for comparison.

Please see the attached document.

7. Whether agency and bank staff costs are already included within the "gross running cost" and "cost per resident" figures already disclosed to me for Grisedale Croft under FOI-208440-2026, and if not, what proportion of total staffing cost they represent.

Yes, it is included in the gross running costs.

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Yours sincerely

