12 March 2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 269/18

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request/Response:

1. How many children became 'looked after' in your local authority in the financial year of 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017?

   Answer: 39

2. Of the children in Q1, how many were in a group of siblings of two or more (I would like the number of children, not the number of groups)?

   Answer:

   | Groups of 2 children | 14 |
   | Groups of 3 children | *  |
   | Groups of 5 children | 5  |

   * In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this email message acts as a Refusal Notice.

We can confirm that we hold the information however we are unable to supply it as we consider this information to be exempt due to the low number of individuals identified.

The Council is relying on Section 40(2) – personal information in that it believes the exemption applies because the information is personal information and we believe that disclosure would not be fair or lawful because it would breach the first data protection principle as outlined in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 1998. We consider that these individuals would have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

3. How many of the children that became 'looked after' in your local authority in the financial year of 2016/2017 were initially placed in Kinship Care/Connected Persons care?

   Answer: * In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this email message acts as a Refusal Notice.
We can confirm that we hold the information however we are unable to supply it as we consider this information to be exempt due to the low number of individuals identified.

The Council is relying on Section 40(2) – personal information in that it believes the exemption applies because the information is personal information and we believe that disclosure would not be fair or lawful because it would breach the first data protection principle as outlined in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 1998. We consider that these individuals would have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

4. How many looked after children in your local authority are currently placed following care proceedings:

   a. With long term LA foster carers?
      Answer: 10

   b. In kinship care foster placements
      Answer: 10

5. a. How many applications to be a kinship carer did you receive in the financial year 2016/2017 in respect of children subject to Care Proceedings?
       Answer: In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this email message acts as a Refusal Notice.

   b. How many of those (5.a.) applications were successful?
      Answer: Same as answer 5a.

6. How many children in your local authority were made the subject of Special Guardianship Order following Care Proceedings in the financial year of 2016/2017?
   Answer: Same as answer 5a.

7. How many of your local authority’s current foster carers are prepared and approved to be long term foster carers of sibling groups of:

   a) 2?
      Answer: Same as answer 5a.
b) 3 or more?

Answer: None

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You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Corporate Support Team, Rutland County Council