FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 378/18

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Request:

1. Can you please explain your commissioning processes for providers of accommodation and/or support in respect to looked after children in residential care/looked after children in semi-independent placements/care leavers/uasc. Do you spot purchase, have framework agreements or have block contracts in each of these categories?

   Answer: Rutland County Council is part of the East Midlands Regional Framework and have an additional spot contract in place for UASC. Provision for any individuals whose needs cannot be met through these contracts would be spot-purchased.

2. If you have framework agreements and/or block contracts for accommodation and/or support in respect to looked after children in residential care/looked after children in semi-independent placements/care leavers/uasc, please specify when each of these are due to be re-tendered.

   Answer: The East Midlands Regional Framework is refreshed on an annual basis.

3. Do organisations need to go through a pre-registration process to accommodate looked after children in residential care/looked after children in semi-independent placements/care leavers/uasc on a spot purchase basis?

   Answer: Providers are subject to a number of compliance and due diligence checks prior to any placements being made.

4. Do you have local authority run provisions for looked after children in residential care/looked after children in semi-independent placements/care leavers/uasc? If so, how many of each category are currently accommodated in these facilities?

   Answer: We have no Local Authority run provision.

5. Please specify the number of looked after children in residential care/looked after children in semi-independent placements/care leavers/uasc accommodated currently via spot purchase, framework agreements and block contracts?
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.

6. How many care leavers/uasc aged 16-17 years old and specified in the answer to question 4 are accommodated in residential children's homes?

Answer: None

7. What is the 2017/18 average weekly cost of placing a looked after child aged under 16 year in a private residential children's home?

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.

8. What is the 2017/18 average weekly cost of placing a care leavers/uasc child aged 16-17 in a private residential children's home?

Answer: Not applicable.

9. What is the 2017/18 average weekly cost of placing a care leavers/uasc child aged 16-17 in a 24/7 supervised semi-independent provision?

Answer: £650/ week

10. What is the 2017/18 average weekly cost of placing a care leavers/uasc child aged 16-17 in an unsupervised semi-independent provision? Please include the cost of floating support. Please advise if you do not place 16-17 year olds in an unsupervised semi-independent provision.

Answer: We have no one in unsupervised semi-independent provision at this time.
11. What is the 2017/18 average weekly cost of placing a care leavers/uasc aged 18-24 in a 24/7 supervised semi-independent provision? Please advise if you do not place 18-24 year olds in a supervised semi-independent provision.

   Answer: £650/ week

12. What is the 2017/18 average weekly cost of placing care leavers/uasc 18-24 year olds in an unsupervised semi-independent provision? Please include the cost of floating support.

   Answer: Not applicable.

13. Who should be approached within the council to discuss spot purchase commissioning, service provision, rates and referrals for accommodating looked after children in residential children’s homes? Who is the specific named point of contact?

   Answer: Initial enquiries can be made to the Head of Commissioning, Karen Kibblewhite. KKibblewhite@rutland.gov.uk

14. Who should be approached within the council to discuss spot purchase commissioning, service provision, rates and referrals for accommodating and/or supporting care leavers/uasc aged 16-17 years old? Who is the specific named point of contact?

   Answer: Initial enquiries can be made to the Head of Commissioning, Karen Kibblewhite. KKibblewhite@rutland.gov.uk

15. Who should be approached within the council to discuss spot purchase commissioning, service provision, rates and referrals for accommodating and/or supporting care leavers/uasc aged 18-24 years old? Who is the specific named point of contact?

   Answer: Initial enquiries can be made to the Head of Commissioning, Karen Kibblewhite. KKibblewhite@rutland.gov.uk

16. Who should be approached within the council to discuss framework agreement/block purchase commissioning for accommodating looked after children in residential care/looked after children in semi-independent placements/care leavers/uasc? Who is the specific named point of contact?

   Answer: Initial enquiries can be made to the Head of Commissioning, Karen Kibblewhite. KKibblewhite@rutland.gov.uk

17. Please can you provide me with a list of all of your current suppliers signed up to framework agreements/block purchase contracts for accommodating looked after children in residential care/looked after children in semi-independent placements/care leavers/uasc?

   Answer: Contracts held directly with the council are published on the Contracts Register as required by the Transparency Code and available on the Council’s website:

   https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/transparency/transparency-code/
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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