FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 385/18

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Request & Response:

1. How many children are currently held on a section 20 order?

   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.

2. How many children have been removed off a section 20 order in the last 12 calendar months?

   Answer: 5

3. Of the children removed from a section 20 order in past 12 calendar months. How many of these children were placed into LA care? how many of these cases resulted in children being returned to the care of the Parents?

   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 children have been placed with an immediate family member such as Grandparents under the kincare clause or a Special Guardianship order in the past 12 calendar months?

Answer: 9

5. What is the longest amount of time that a child has been left on a section 20 order without going to Court?

Please give statistics for the past 3 calendar years

Answer: In order to determine this, an officer would have to manually inspect records to determine whether it fell within the scope of your request and if so, extract the relevant data. Given the number of records involved, we believe it to be a reasonable estimate that to comply with your request would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450. This figure is set out in Regulations and is equivalent to one person working more than 18 hours to determine whether we hold the information, and to locate and extract the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Authority is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

You are free to use any documents supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. The documents may also be used for news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing the documents or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner, where copyright exists. Such a request would be considered separately in accordance with the relevant Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005 and is not automatic. Therefore, no permission is implied in the re-use of this information, until such a request to re-use it has been made and agreed, subject to any appropriate conditions. Any request to re-use the information should be made to me at the address below.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Head of Corporate Governance, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HPYou 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