FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 617/18

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Request/Response:

1. How many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (“unaccompanied minors”) are looked after by your local authority? How many are aged 16-18?

   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 unaccompanied minors have been moved from foster care into semi-independent caring arrangements (supported care), such as the YMCA, after reaching the age of 16 in any of the last 5 years?

   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.

3. How many of these unaccompanied minors were then returned from such supported care arrangements to foster care before or on reaching age 18?

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. Do you as a local authority have a policy on supporting unaccompanied asylum-seeking children? If so, may I please receive a copy?

Answer: The policy on supporting unaccompanied asylum-seeking children can be found using the following links:

Chapter 3 – Children in particular circumstances

3.2.1 Unaccompanied asylum seeking children –

http://llrchildcare.proceduresonline.com/rutland/p_uasc.html

3.2.2 Families with no recourse for public funds –

http://llrchildcare.proceduresonline.com/rutland/p_no_recourse_public.html

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Head of Corporate Governance, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Corporate Support Team, Rutland County Council