FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 797/18

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Request/Response:

We are making a request under the Freedom of Information Act for the following information relating to provision for deaf or hard-of hearing children resident in your Local Authority.

1. How many children (0-18) in your Local Authority are deaf or hard of hearing?

   Answer: Rutland County Council does not hold this information. Total population information would be available from the specialists team based at University Hospitals of Leicester and Peterborough District General hospital – Children’s Audiology departments.

2. What percentage of overall children (0-18) in your LA are deaf or hard of hearing?

   Answer: Rutland County Council does not hold this information. Total population information would be available from the specialists team based at University Hospitals of Leicester and Peterborough District General hospital – Children’s Audiology departments.

Regarding budgets for Special Educational Needs (and Disabilities):

3. How much has been spent on provision of British Sign Language tuition, in the form of lessons for parents, lessons for children, funding for schools to deliver lessons, or tutoring for children or families with deafness? Can you please provide me with the last 3 years of budgeted and actual figures?

   Answer:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>£61,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>£57,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>£60,700 YTD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Does the LA employ an individual to teach/tutor BSL to families of deaf children? Has this changed over the last three years?
Answer: No. This has not changed over the last 3 years. Rutland County Council commission services from Leicestershire County Council.

5. Do any of the LA’s teachers of the deaf / Specialist Teachers teach/tutor BSL to children or families? Has this changed over the last three years?

Answer: As per question 4 above.

Regarding Education, Health and Care Plans:

6. How many children have British Sign Language mentioned as a special educational need in their Education, Health and Care Plan? Has this changed over the last three 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.

7. Of these, how many children have British Sign Language tuition (for them or for their parents/carers/family) named in the provision section of the plan? Has this changed over the last three years?

Answer: None

8. How are these provisions fulfilled?

Answer: None

9. Are any of these provisions made through personal budgets?

Answer: Not Applicable

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Data Protection Officer, 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
Wilsmlow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully
FOI Administrator
Business Support Team
Rutland County Council