FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 203/19

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Request / Response:

Please find below an FOI request relating to the trafficking of children and their subsequent care.

Unseen piloted safe accommodation for potentially trafficked foreign migrant children. The service was developed with local authority, police and governmental partners and was Ofsted registered. Through running this service we became aware of some systemic barriers that fundamentally prevent children from accessing the care and protection they need.

We would like to know, for each local authority in the UK:

1. How many potentially trafficked children you have identified in the last 12 months?

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 of these children have been non-UK Nationals?

Answer:

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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. Of the children identified what type of care placements have been sought? (foster care, secure, supported accommodation, children’s home, living independently)

Answer:
Supported accommodation

4. How many children in this cohort have subsequently a) remained in their original placement b) moved to a different placement c) gone missing short-term (72 hours or less) or d) gone missing long-term (over 72 hours)?

Answer:
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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
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully