18 March 2019

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 331/19

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Request & Response:

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) in relation to Childrens Homes:

Childrens Home Statistics

Please advise;
1. The number of registered Childrens Homes operated by the Local Authority as at 1st January 2019 and as at 1st January 2018;

Answer: 0

2. The number of registered Childrens Homes operated by an Independent (private or voluntary) provider within your Local Authority as at 1st January 2019 and as at 1st January 2018;

Answer: 0

LAC Statistics

Please advise;
3. The number of current looked after children (LAC);

Answer: 31

4. The number of LAC currently placed within Local Authority Childrens homes;

Answer: 0

5. The number of LAC currently placed within Independent Childrens homes;

Answer: 1

6. In relation to any Frameworks you currently operate with Independent Childrens Home Providers, please provide the following information (including Provider name) about the number of LAC placed with Independent Childrens Homes,
the average weekly fee paid for these placements, per type specified and whether the fees include any discounts agreed with said Provider. Please also advise the totals for all placements in each type specified i.e. total average weekly fee & total no of CYP in placement. Framework & Non-Framework Providers & Fees

Answer:
In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this email message acts as a Refusal Notice.
Under Section 43 of the Act - commercial interests: that disclosure of the information may prejudice the commercial interests of another person as the information could provide the recipient with an unfair advantage. This is because the Council believes that disclosure of this information would prejudice the commercial interests of the provider, as it would harm the provider’s ability to compete in the market. The public interest test has been applied and in all the circumstances of the case, the Council considers that the public interest in maintaining the exemption is greater than the public interest in disclosure.

7. As per question 6, please provide the same information; however, this time in relation to Non-Framework Providers i.e. where the Local Authority (LA) has placed with Independent Childrens Home Providers using a Spot Purchase mechanism because the Provider is not on a Framework with the LA. Please also advise the totals for all placements in each type specified i.e. total average weekly fee & total no of CYP in placement.

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

FOI Administrator
Business Support Team
Rutland County Council