

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

You asked:

1. **How many residential children's homes did you have in your local authority area as on 31 December 2012? How many of these are run by:**
 - a) **The local authority**
Answer: 5
 - b) **Private sector**
Within Leicestershire - 24
 - c) **A voluntary organisation**
We do not use voluntary sector placements so do not hold such information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

2. **The total number of looked after children who were placed in a residential children's home as on 31 December 2012.**
Local Authority Homes: 31. Privately managed 11

3. **The total number of looked after children who were placed in residential children's homes as on 31 December 2012:**
 - a) **within your local authority area**
Local Authority Homes: 31. Privately managed 11
 - b) **under 20 miles outside your local authority**
9
 - c) **over 20 miles outside your local authority**
2

4. **The total number of looked after children who were placed in residential children's homes as on 31 December 2012 which had an Ofsted inspection report with an overall rating of:**
 - a) **Adequate**
0 Local Authority homes. Privately managed 2 are adequate: 3 children placed
 - b) **Inadequate**
0

5. **Between the dates 1 Jan 2012 to 31 Dec 2012 what was the turnover of permanent care staff (proportion of employees who left expressed as a percentage of total workforce as a percentage) for:**

- a) **All residential children's homes in your local authority**
2.4%
- b) **Private sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility**
The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.
- c) **Voluntary sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility**
The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

6. What proportion of managers as on 31 December 2012 have a NVQ level 4 qualification or above in:

- a) **All residential children's homes in your local authority**
All Local Authority Managers have a NVQ 4 Qualification or above.
- b) **Private sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility**
The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.
- c) **Voluntary sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility**
The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

6a) What proportion of care staff as on 31 December 2012 were permanent employees for:

- a) **All residential children's homes in your local authority**
The proportion of Care Staff to Non Care in Children's homes is 92-120
- b) **Private sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility**
The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.
- c) **Voluntary sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility**
The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

6b) What proportion of care staff as on 31 December 2012 were agency employees for:

a) All residential children's homes in your local authority

4%

b) Private sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility

The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

c) Voluntary sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility

The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

7. What proportion of care staff (permanent and agency) as on 31 December 2012 had an NVQ level 3 in childcare in:

a) all residential children's homes in your local authority

92%

b) Private sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility

The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

c) Voluntary sector residential children's homes used for placements of children for whom you have responsibility

The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

8. On how many occasions were looked after children missing from residential children's homes for more than 5 hours from 1 Jan 2012 to 31 Dec 2012:

a) Placed within your local authority

Placed within Leicester City Internal residential homes (not including fostering) 442

Placed within internal fostering 49

Total = 491

No of individual children - Int residential homes 32

No of individual children - Int foster homes 21

Total = 53

Placed outside of your local authority

External residential placements 142

External fostering placements 11

Total = 153

No of individual children - ext residential placements
No of individual children - ext fostering placements
Total =

13
6

19

b) For both a) and b), please indicate how many individual looked after children account for these missing incidents

9. How many return interviews were conducted with looked after children who went missing or were absent from a residential care home from 1 Jan to 31 Dec 2012.

There is a clear and robust procedure in place around children and young people in care who go missing; this includes arrangements for social care workers speaking to children when they return.

Social care workers always speak to the children and young people promptly on return following an absence. Where appropriate this initial return interview is carried out jointly with the police.

In most cases, social care workers and staff will know where the child or young person has been as this will have been subject to risk assessment. Return 'interviews' are often informal and not necessarily recorded. As such the council does not hold the information requested. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

9a) In how many of these cases was a return interview completed within the required statutory 72 hours.

The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

9b) Please provide a copy of your policy on the completion of return interviews after a missing or absent incident.

Attached. Some personal information has been withheld since we consider that to be an absolute exemption under section 40(2) (personal data), and this therefore constitutes a refusal under section 17 of the Freedom of information Act 2000.

10. How much does a residential care placement cost per child per year (excluding those children with a disability).

£2850 - £3,000

Please supply this figure as an average.

The legislation allows you to use the information supplied for your own personal use. Please be aware that any commercial or other use, for example publication, sale, or redistribution may be a breach of copyright under the

Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 as amended unless you obtain the copyright holder's prior permission.

Not all the information that is supplied which is covered by copyright will be the Council's copyright, for example it may be the copyright of a government department or another Council. You should seek either the Council's consent or their consent as appropriate. The Council is willing to advise you of any such potential issues on request. In order to make a request to re-use the information please contact the Information Governance Manager using the details below.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

Information Governance Manager
Information and Customer Access
Leicester City Council
FREEPOST (LE985/33)
New Walk Centre
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG

e-mail: info.requests@leicester.gov.uk

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700

www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider appeals or complaints until the internal appeals and complaints processes of the public authority which is answering the request have been exhausted. You are therefore advised to complain or appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.