

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) Does your authority hold a register of disabled children; is it separate to any register of disabled adults you may hold; and does your register record blind and partially sighted children specifically?**

Yes

- 2) How many children are on your disability register? And how many are blind or partially sighted?**

There are 1138 children on the register, 125 are registered "Severely Sight Impaired" (blind) and "Sight Impaired" (partially sighted).

- 3) How many children with SEN statements are there in your local authority area? And how many are blind or partially sighted?**

Please see the attached document

- 4) How many children are on School Action plans in your local authority area? And how many are blind or partially sighted?**

Please see the attached document

- 5) How many children are on School Action + plans in your local authority area? And how many are blind or partially sighted?**

Please see the attached document

- 6) Please tell us anything else you'd like about how you ensure blind and partially sighted children's needs are identified and met in your area.**

There is a legal definition of these labels (although the labels have changed and "blind" and "partially sighted" are old labels. There are specific registrations under the law of "Severely Sight Impaired" (blind) and "Sight Impaired" (partially sighted), which are decided by the medics and this register is held by VISTA. It is a social register and there is no transfer of this information to any Local Authority register.

However, the numbers of blind and partially sighted children in Leicester supported by the Visual Impairment team are known and the VI team don't use the legal definitions alone but count all children who

have a visual impairment that may impact on their development and/or access to education. There is no simple criterion on which to make this decision and there is a detailed specialist assessment and review of these children to decide and maintain their place within the VI team caseload.

If the child is on the VI team caseload then they can be readily counted within the ONE database and this is regardless of which educational setting they attend since they remain in our caseload whether they are in pre-school, early years, mainstream, special, academy, free, private or home education

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

Information Governance Manager
Information and Support
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.