

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 local authority Children's Services offer family group conferences to families undergoing care proceedings?**

[Yes, this Local Authority has a Family Group Conference Team](#)

- 2) Please list the support your local authority Children's Services offer to kinship carers who are not local authority foster carers (that is, who have Residence Orders, Special Guardianship Orders, or who are informal, private kinship carers)? (e.g. telephone advice line, financial assistance, respite care, etc.)**

[Non LA kinship carers have access to the full range of local authority services available to children in need, according to assessment of need.](#)

- 3) Has your local authority published a policy on supporting the needs of children living in kinship care?**

[Leicester City Council has published this as part of its Fostering Statement of Purpose.](#)

- 4) If the answer to question 3) was affirmative, does this policy refer to the principle that support should be needs-based (rather than dependent on legal status?)**

[No](#)

- 5) If kinship carers who are not formal foster carers in your local authority area are social sector tenants, are they/would they be subject to the 'removal of the spare room subsidy' reform, or are they/would they be exempted from this reform (e.g. by using the Discretionary Housing Payments) due to their being kinship carers?**

[No](#)

- 6) How many kinship carers who are not local authority foster carers are there in your local area who have been affected by the removal of the spare room subsidy since the reform was introduced (if this information is available)?**

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.

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.

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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.