

## **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:**

**As you will be aware, Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on Family and Friends Care (April 2011) requires local authorities to publish a policy on family and friends care no later than 30 September 2011. We are now writing to all English local authorities to request information on their family and friends care policies.**

**We will use information gathered to monitor the impact of this requirement, highlight best practice and identify any difficulties in implementation. We will publicise the information we collect on the Kinship Care Alliance webpage, providing web-links to local authorities' family and friends care policies and the name of the authorities' lead officers for family and friends care.**

**I therefore wish to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:**

- 1. Has your local authority published a policy on family and friends care? If so please supply a copy and a web address of its location on your website.**
- 2. What process did you use to develop the policy? How did you consult children and young people, family and friends carers and parents in the drawing up of policies? (As specified in paragraph 4.8 of the Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities.)**
- 3. What is the name, position and contact details of the senior manager who holds overall management responsibility for the family and friends care policy? (As specified in paragraph 4.9 of the Statutory Guidance.)**
- 4. What steps are you taking to publicise the policy and make it available to family and friends carers and other relevant stakeholder, for example through leaflets and weblinks? (As specified in paragraph 4.3 of the Statutory Guidance.) Please supply copies of any leaflets.**
- 5. What procedures are being put in place to regularly update the policy (as specified in paragraph 4.2 of the Statutory Guidance) and ensure that its implementation is monitored and evaluated?**

[Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on Family and Friends Care \(April 2011\)](#) is new guidance requiring local authorities to develop a range of clear policies in consultation with service users. Leicester City Council in common with most local authorities is committed to delivering high standards of service provision, but is also having to respond to extreme operational and financial

pressures at this time. Although work is underway to comply with the above guidance Leicester City Council is not as yet in a position to publish its policies.

Leicester City Council does not hold the information requested. 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, the information is not available in a format that can be published at this time.

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 Head of Information Governance using the details below.

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

**Head of Information Governance**

**Information and Support**

**Leicester City Council**

**FREEPOST (LE985/33)**

**New Walk Centre**

**LEICESTER LE1 6ZG**

e-mail: [FOIA@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:FOIA@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](http://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 Head of Information Governance before contacting the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

**Lynn Wyeth**

**Head of Information Governance**