

## **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:**

**I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act for information on children known to the council amid concerns that they are, or at some stage have been, involved in the sex trade or child prostitution.**

### **More specifically I am requesting the following:**

**The number of girls currently known to the council amid concerns that they are, or at some stage have been, involved in the sex trade (receiving money or other benefits in return for sexual acts) or child prostitution, for each of the following ages:  
0 – 15.**

**The number of boys currently known to the council amid concerns that they are, or at some stage have been, involved in the sex trade (receiving money or other benefits in return for sexual acts) or child prostitution, for each of the following ages:  
0 - 15**

We do not collate this information and gathering the data would require a manual trawl of all cases open to the children's social care service, currently some 2,000. We would need to trawl through each child's case file and establish if said child had any involvement at any point in the sex industry.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for local government is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending more than 18 hours in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We estimate it will take in excess of 1000 hours to process your request. This is therefore a Refusal Notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act, because under the provisions of section 12.1 of the Act, the Council estimates that to comply with your request in its current form will exceed the appropriate limit.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required. We do have a duty to advise and assist you in refining your request under s16 of the Act so please do not hesitate to contact us if you need help in refining your request.

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 Support**  
**Leicester City Council**  
**FREEPOST (LE985/33)**  
**New Walk Centre**  
**LEICESTER LE1 6ZG**  
e-mail: [FOIA@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:FOIA@leicester.gov.uk)

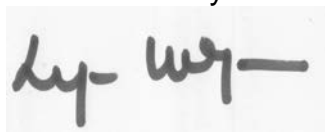
Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

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 the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely



**Lynn Wyeth**  
**Information Governance Manager**

