

FOIA Request 0675 – fraudulent school admissions applications.

Information prior to 2009/10 is not recorded and not available. 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.

2009/10

Number of investigations

5 investigations

Reason for investigating

“Incorrect” addresses claiming residence in the priority area

Number of cases found to be outside the rules

3

Number of places withdrawn

2. In addition one parent withdrew their application before our enquiries were completed.

Number of schools

4. Overdale, Dovelands, Montrose and King Richard III – all primary schools.

Number of prosecutions

None

2010/2011

Number of investigations

0

2011-2012

Number of investigations

6

Reasons for investigating

“Incorrect” addresses claiming residence in the priority area

Number of cases found to be outside the rules

2

Number of places withdrawn

2

Number of schools

2. Rushey Mead School and Soar Valley College – both secondary schools.

Number of prosecutions

None

Surveillance

The Admissions Service does not carry out surveillance when investigating applications.

Council's policy on fraudulent applications

The Council is concerned about fraudulent applications primarily because such applications deny a place to an entitled child. There is no evidence that the level of fraudulent applications in Leicester is a serious problem but the Council continues to be vigilant.

The Council has stepped up its efforts to deter and detect any such fraud. Documentation and forms relating to applications have been amended in the last few months to strengthen statements about fraudulent applications and to make it even clearer to parents what information they should provide.

In addition the Council has initiated a system whereby it is alerted to address changes which occur just before key transfer stages when most applications occur.