

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:

Under the Freedom of information act please can you send to me electronic copies of

A. The policies and procedures which relate to social services removing children from the care of their parents.

The LA is guided by the Children's Act 1989 in relation to its duties to identify risk to children and where they are deemed 'significant' consider what steps may need to be taken to safeguard that child. Where a child is considered at such significant risk that removal from parents care is thought advisable then an application to Court is made and it is the Court which ultimately decides whether removal is warranted or not. The LA's policy and procedures do not determine under what criteria a child should be removed, that is down to professional judgement and the evidence base presented to court

B. The criteria which has to be fulfilled to make a child eligible for being adopted out of a parents care

Criteria 1: child is relinquished by a parent.

Criteria 2: child has been subject to Child Protection or Looked after Children and /or where there are no other viable family carers. The decision to place children for adoption is agreed after assessments and best interest decisions are made.

If adoption is deemed in their best interest the child is presented to the Adoption Panel who makes a recommendation. The child must also have a placement order from the courts, this gives the Local Authority the duty to place a child in an adoptive placement.

C. What psychological assessments are used on the parents? (or other assessments) and a copy of a blank version.

The Local Authority does not undertake psychological assessments.

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

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

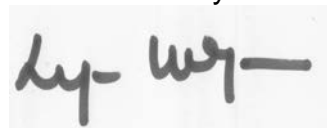
Wilmslow SK9 5AF

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.

Yours sincerely



Lynn Wyeth

Information Governance Manager