The following information is requested from your local authority under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. These questions should be directed to your children’s social services team.

If it is not possible to provide the following information due to the information exceeding the costs of compliance limited identified in Section 12 of the Act, please provide advice and assistance, under your Section 16 obligations, as to how the request could be refined to fit within the scope of the Act.

Please contact me with any queries or clarifications as soon as they arise and I will be happy to assist. The information requested is as follows:

**In relation to looked after children:**

1. For the calendar year 2016, how many unaccompanied asylum seeking children looked after by your local authority were

a)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Looked after and under 16 years of age | 10 although some turned 16 in the year |
| Looked after and aged 16 or 17 | 9 |
| Care leavers aged 16-21 | 12 |

b) And how many looked after unaccompanied asylum seeking children turned 18/left care but did not gain care leaver status?

|  |
| --- |
| 1 |

1. How many unaccompanied children did your local authority received under the national transfer scheme in the calendar year 2016?

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| 8 |

1. In the calendar year 2016
2. please provide figures in relation to the numbers of unaccompanied asylum seeking children for whom you:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Looked after unaccompanied asylum seeking children |
| Funded legal advice |  |
| Supported to access free legal advice |  |
| Other (please specify) |  |

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.

The information requested is not held in a reportable format. This data, if held, would be recorded on an individual’s case file and would require the manual trawl of each user record.

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.

1. when determining if a child needs immigration advice do you consult with an
	1. in-house legal team
	2. external legal counsel
	3. case by case basis
2. Do you have an internal policy, or written guidance outlining how you will facilitate access to immigration legal advice for looked after children in your care? **If yes, please attach**

|  |
| --- |
| Leicester City Council does not have such a policy; therefore, this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council. |

**In relation to children in private fostering arrangements and children receiving Section 17 and other forms of family support:**

1. In the calendar year 2016
2. how many children were in private foster arrangements within the local authority?

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| 6 |

1. How many children in private foster arrangements in 2016 became looked after?

|  |
| --- |
| 1 |

1. How many children in private foster care arrangements were subject to immigration control?

|  |
| --- |
| 0 |

1. Of children in private foster care who were subject to immigration control how many became looked after in 2016?

|  |
| --- |
| Not applicable. |

1. In the calendar year of 2016,
2. How many children moved into your local authority to re-join family members under the Dublin III regulations?

|  |
| --- |
| 11 |

1. How many of the families in a) are currently receiving support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989?

|  |
| --- |
| 1 |

1. How many young people transferred through the Dublin regulations to your area have you subsequently taken into care after family breakdown?

|  |
| --- |
| 3 |

1. In the calendar year 2016 please provide figures in relation to the immigration legal advice secured for the below children:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Fund legal advice | Support to access free legal advice | Other (please specify) |
| Children in private foster care subject to immigration controlNot applicable. |  |  |  |
| Children, subject to immigration control, living with their family and receiving support through section 17 of the Children Act 1989 or other forms of family support.This information is not recorded in a reportable format and would require the manual trawl of all records. |  |  |  |
| Immigration advice for children who have arrived in your local authority through a Dublin III transferThis information is not recorded in a reportable format and would require the manual trawl of all records. |  |  |  |
| Immigration advice for children who have arrived in your local authority through a Dublin III transfer AND are receiving support through section 17 of the Children Act 1989.None, not applicable |  |  |  |

1. Do you have an internal policy, or written guidance outlining how you will facilitate access to:
2. Immigration legal advice for children living with their family in your local authority who are receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 or other forms of family support? **If yes, please attach**

|  |
| --- |
| Leicester City Council does not have such a policy; therefore, this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council. |

1. Immigration legal advice for children in private foster care in your local authority? **If yes, please attach**

|  |
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| Leicester City Council does not have such a policy; therefore, this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council. |

**In relation to trafficked children:**

1. In the calendar year of 2016,
2. how many referrals did your local authority make to the National Referral Mechanism to report suspected cases of trafficking in relation to children?

|  |
| --- |
| 1 |

1. how many of these referrals were for children subject to immigration control?

|  |
| --- |
| 0 |