

Identity & Passport Service

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FoI 14629 /10

Request-31990-4255cb2a@whatdotheyknow.com

28 May 2010

Dear Paul,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 4 April 2010 in which you ask for information on children registered without a name. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

From 1 April 2008, the General Register Office (GRO) became part of the Identity and Passport Service (IPS). You asked for the following information:-

It is my understanding that it is possible to register the birth of a child with no name, and then subsequently have a name entered into the register at any point within 12 months.

I would ask that you provide

a) Statistics from 2007 to 2010

1) the number of children initially registered without a name ,that includes forenames as well as surnames.

2) the number of such children where a name is subsequently registered within 12 months

The Office for National Statistics compiles national statistics from registration records, and we have received the following information from them:

Numbers of registrations

Year of registration	Registered with no forename	Name added later
2007	22	3
2008	19	4

Source : Office for National Statistics



Please note that there were no instances found where a surname was missing. 2008 is currently the latest year for which data have been compiled.

You also asked us:

b) details on any process the GRO has for pro-actively contacting parents of children registered without a name both within and beyond this 12 month period.

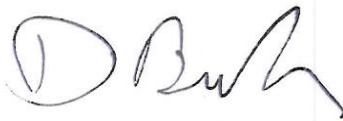
There is no process for GRO to do this. It is for the parents to request a name be added to the registration if and when they wish to do this.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference FOICR 14629/10.

Information Access Team
Home Office
Ground Floor, Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
Email : info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. Should you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right to complain to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Buckley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

D.Buckley
Deputy Registrar General for England and Wales.