

My ref: FOI 272948
Your ref:
Date: 28th April 2009
Contact: Sarah Priestley – Information Governance Officer
Direct dial: (01223) 699137
E Mail: foi@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

C Murton

Customer Service and Transformation
Corporate Director, Pat Harding

By email:

request-9846-3b59f806@whatdotheyknow.com

Information Governance

RES1405
Room 307
Shire Hall
Cambridge
CB3 0AP

Dear C Murton

Re: Freedom of Information request.

I write with reference to your email of March 28th, in which you make the following request;

- 1. The number of persons in the local authority of compulsory school age who are, or claimed to be, electively home educated and who have been either suspected or found to be involved in child abuse, neglect, forced marriage, sexual exploitation or domestic servitude.*
- 2. How many (if any) Serious Case Reviews or Joint Area Review have reported with respect to home educated children in the LA.*

This request has been dealt with in line with the Freedom of Information Act and I can confirm that we do hold some of the information.

There are currently 278 children who are registered with us as being home-educated, although it should be noted that there is no obligation to register this status with the County Council, so I am unable to say whether this figure accurately represents the total number of children. We do hold information relating to child protection issues, however, this information is not available in a format that allows us to identify which home educated children are subject to child protection proceedings. In order to locate this information, we would require examination of individual child protection records. We have estimated that locating and extracting the information will cost more than the appropriate limit and are therefore refusing this request on these grounds under s.12(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and for local government is set at £450 as specified by The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees)

We have not had any instances of Serious Case or Joint Area reviews in respect of home-educated children.

I hope this information is helpful, however, if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to Helen Maneuf, Head of Audit, Scrutiny and Information Governance, Box Res1405, Room 307, Shire Hall, Cambridge CB3 0AP within 40 days of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Kind regards

Sarah Priestley
Information Governance Officer.