

Information Resilience and Transparency

Please ask for: Kelly Leeson FOI Reference: 9943780 Phone: +443000415985

Email:

kcc.information@email.icasework.com

Date: 17 December 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 relating to fostering data. Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your request: I appreciate that the Council has not complied with statutory timescales on this occasion. Please see the response provided below:

On analyzing your open data, we noticed that 52 rows (of fostering related transactions) have been redacted for the July 2018 Council expenditure. If these do not contain personal sensitive information, but payments to IFAs, agencies, we kindly request you to supply us with the un-redacted information. Following clarification:

You are correct, we also cannot see the 52 lines that were referred to in the FOI request. However, it seems the file has since been updated a few months after we had downloaded & analysed its contents. Could you please verify that with the concerned department (that the July 2018 file was updated since being posted publicly)? We ask, because we have spent considerable time & effort to narrow down this issue and it would help ensure to prevent recurrences of such incidents in the future, if there are some checks & balances in place to ensure the transparency of Open Data.

The original published data was incorrect and then subsequently updated. As soon as KCC discovered the error with the published information it was corrected. We now carry out additional checks to ensure that it does not happen again

If you are unhappy with this response, and believe KCC has not complied with legislation, you have 40 working days from the date of this response to ask for a review. You can do this by following our complaints process; details can be found at this link https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/complaints-and-compliments#tab-9 on our website. Please quote reference 9943780.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner, who oversees compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Details of what you need to do, should you wish to pursue this course of action, are available from the Information Commissioner's website http://ico.org.uk/concerns

Yours sincerely

Kelly Leeson Information Access Officer