

## Hammersmith and Fulham

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28 May 2019

Our reference: 1436922

Dear

Thank you for your request for information received on 14 January 2019. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to you.

### Your request

*Could I have a year by year breakdown of how many children were sent to Beechholme Children's Home by Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Council from 1960 to 1974 please?*

*The format of this data would be as follows:*

1960: XX  
1961: XXX  
1962: XX

### Our response

This request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can advise that unfortunately, both Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (cost of compliance) and exemption 31 (1) (a) (law enforcement) apply to your request for information.

o We have applied the qualified exemption set out in Section 31 (1) (a) (Law enforcement) with the view that the public interest in maintaining the integrity of an ongoing police investigation outweighs the public interest in disclosing any information held.

o Within the decision above we would like to re-assure you that we have been able to retrieve files relating to specific individuals at the request of the police. Subject access request consent has been provided by each individual to allow H&F to locate their file and provide a copy to the police to assist in their investigation.

o Without specific individuals being named, and consent being provided by them to retrieve their information, H&F is unable to identify who was referred to Beechholme Children's home and is therefore unable to establish the volume of cases between 1960 and 1974.

This is because H&F do not hold a single database containing this information. As such, to provide the information you have requested would exceed the appropriate cost limit (18h) as specified under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am sorry that we were unable to assist on this occasion.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request for information, please contact the h&f InTouch team within 40 working days of receiving this response. They will consider the matters raised and decide whether they are referred to the Council's Information Manager for an internal review.

You can write to the h&f InTouch team at Room 229, Hammersmith Town Hall, King Street, London W6 9JU, or email: [handfintouch@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:handfintouch@lbhf.gov.uk). If you are registered for self-service, via the Council's My Account portal, you can also do this online: [Click here to complete the form](#)

You also have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Tel: 0303 123 1113. Website: [www.ico.org.uk/concerns/](http://www.ico.org.uk/concerns/). There is no charge for making an appeal. The ICO may ask you to contact Hammersmith and Fulham, so we can complete an internal review, before the ICO investigates the matter.

Yours sincerely

**Graham Ostle**  
**FOI Hammersmith & Fulham**