



**MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL**

**Nikhel Prabhu
N/A**

Children and Families

Information Governance Team

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12th December 2019

Dear Nikhel

Re: Request for Information – ASC/BHLGHB - IR (suppliers who provide a service in Health and Social Care - Internal Review)

I refer to your email to Manchester City Council ("the Council") dated 03 December 2019 asking that the Council undertake an internal review of your request for information (suppliers who provide a service in Health and Social Care - Internal Review). An internal review has now been completed and this letter is to inform you of its outcome.

Background

In your request of 4th November 2019 you asked for:

Suppliers who provide a service in Health and Social Care

The time-period of this request is 2018 & 2019. In particular, I am looking for itemized transactions for 2018 & 2019 (i.e., at the daily level) for all suppliers who provide a service ONLY in Health & Social Care - preferably in CSV format.

I'd like to make a request under the Freedom of Information act for all transactions over £500 for 2018. As a minimum, please make sure to include the date, value and recipient of each transaction.

If it would help, I am specifically looking for payments to suppliers who provide a service in Health and Social Care. This would include all suppliers falling under the categories :-

1. Payments to suppliers who provide fostering and adoption services to the Council
2. Payments to suppliers who provide care services to the council. This would include suppliers who provide care under each of below -
 - a. Children's Residential/ Nursing Care Providers
 - b. Adult Residential/ Nursing Care Providers

- c. Elderly Residential/ Nursing Care Providers
 - d. Domiciliary Care Home Providers
 - e. Supported Living Care Home Providers
 - f. Care at Home Providers
 - g. Providers who carry out Homeless Services
3. Payments to suppliers who provide Special Education Services

In particular I am looking for itemized transactions (i.e., at the daily level) for suppliers - preferably in CSV format. I look forward to the information at the earliest.

Basis of complaint

In your email of 3rd December 2019 you asked for an internal review as the Council had not yet answered your follow up query, below:

"We have previously analysed your open data files listed under https://secure.manchester.gov.uk/info/200110/budgets_and_spending/5022/publication_of_supplier_transactions_over_500 & find that Fostering related payments seem to be missing for entire 2018/19. Whereas data before 2018 shows several 100's Fostering txns./month, the years 2018 to Date show perhaps just a handful (below 10/month, if at all). We request the Council to please re-check their records or take the assistance of the relevant dept. to furnish us with this data.

If it would help, we have identified the following IFA's the Council conducted business with previously.

Therapeutic Fostering Ltd (Previously Ccats Fostering Ltd)

Three Circles Fostering Ltd

Barnardo'S Fostering Service

Child Action Northwest

A full history of my FOI request and all correspondence is available on the Internet at this address:
https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/council_expenditure_or_payment_t_215

Findings

Following receipt of your complaint, we have fully reviewed our figures and cannot identify any of the gaps or inconsistencies in relation to the fostering figures which you have outlined in the published information we referred you to on our website.

Can I ask that you check again on the website link below, using the filter of Expenses and Foster payments on the spreadsheets published to access the data and if you still see an inconsistency can you please give me a fuller explanation of what your search has thrown up?

https://secure.manchester.gov.uk/info/200110/budgets_and_spending/5022/publication_of_supplier_transactions_over_500

Conclusion

The information you requested is already in the public domain and is published on a month by month basis by the Council. We have been unable to find the discrepancy you have highlighted, so would respectfully request that you again research the data published.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of this 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

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Sean McKendrick
Assistant Director
Children's Directorate