

Mr N Prabhu
By Email:
[request-647533-
bed13498@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-647533-bed13498@whatdotheyknow.com)

Ein Cyf/Our ref
Dyddiad/Date
Gofynner am/Ask for
Rhif Cyswllt/Contact No
E-bost/E-mail

FOI0408
21 August 2020
Corporate Information Team
01978 292000
FOI@wrexham.gov.uk

Dear Mr Prabhu

Re: Internal Review of FOI0408

An Internal Review has been undertaken in relation to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Before continuing, please allow me to apologise for the extensive delay in responding to your Internal Review request. This delays have been due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, which severely reduced the resource capacity of the team who carry out Internal Reviews on behalf of Wrexham Council.

You had initial made a request for information which was handled and responded to under FOI0386. The information at that time was not provided under Section 12 – Request exceeds cost threshold. You therefore provided a more specific request for information which was handled and responded to under FOI0408.

You remain dissatisfied that information pertaining to question 1 of your second FOI request was not provided:

1. Payments to suppliers who provide fostering and adoption services to the Council

In this case an exemption under Section 40(2) – Third Party Information was applied and you were advised of this outcome. You dispute this:

What we are requesting does NOT constitute "personal sensitive information" for the purposes of FOIA. This is standard information provided by all the Welsh authorities we have approached, over the past 2 years. All the councils have provided us with this data, including Wrexham.

We do not understand why you would apply the exemption in this instance. Private individual names (for eg. Fostering Allowances or personal payments) may indeed be Redacted; but Fostering Agencies & Supplier names should be provided under the provisions of the act.

Findings:

This review has considered the objection you have put forward and the reasons for the application of an exemption under S.40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. This review has also considered the guidance as published by the ICO and the Government.

The determination is that the exemption was applied appropriately in this case. Your objection is noted and understood, however the reason to not provide the names of the agencies was due to the low numbers of children in their care. Therefore the provision of the names themselves may result in children being able to be identified, once that information has been placed in the public domain.

The decision has been made pertaining this enquiry only and your comments that other Authorities and Wrexham Council in the past have provided the information you requested would not be considered applicable in this case.

If you are not content with the outcome, you have a right to take the issue to the Information Commissioner (ICO), who investigates complaints on information access. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Jones', written in a cursive style.

Gareth Jones
Complaints Lead

