

Information Access Team



A Griffith

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Tel: 0300 123 4040

Email: information.governance@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Our reference: 1873185

Your reference: request-977926-cf161a3d@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 5 May 2023

Dear A Griffith

Freedom of Information Act 2000

On 3rd March 2023 Hertfordshire County Council received the following request for information from you:

I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information act to obtain information regarding the use of Family Group Conferences, or similar meetings within your Children's Services and would be grateful for the following information please:

- 1. Are you holding Family Group Conferences, or similar meetings (if so what are they called) as a standard part of your process?***
- 2. Do you provide this service of Family Group Conferences or similar meetings internally or use an external provider (if so which provider)?***
- 3. How many Family Group Conferences or similar meetings do you hold on average per year?***

Your request for information has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I can respond as follows:

1. Yes we are and these are called Family Group Conferences / FGC's.
2. The Family Group Conferences Service is managed internally within the County Council and we commission Independent Individual Coordinators to deliver FGC's on our behalf to families.
3. On average we hold approximately 230 – 250 initial FGC's per year for families.

Please quote the reference number 1873185 in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the County Council has handled your request for information you may request an internal review of the request. This will be carried out by a member of the County Council Legal Services Team, who has had no prior involvement with the request. Requests for an internal review should be sent to the Information Governance Unit at the address above (within 2 months of this correspondence) and should detail in writing your grounds of appeal.

County of opportunity

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF.
Telephone: 0330 123 1113
Website: www.ico.org.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours faithfully

Michael Warby
Information Access Manager