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2 July 2013

Mr M Beedles

Our Reference: CAS-259574-VBVR66

By email:

Request-163769-

xxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Dear Mr Beedles

Your request for information

Thank you for your email dated 18 September 2012 in which you requested the following information:

"lists of all establishments, open and closed, that Ofsted has on its database for the following regions:

North West; East Midlands; London; West Midlands; Yorkshire and the humber"

You requested the following columns of information be provided for the above regions in an excel spreadsheet:

"Establishment name, URN, LAestab (number), Region (GOR) Local Authority, Type of establishment and Phase of education for open and closed settings."

In our telephone conversation on 7th June 2013, we discussed your request and you confirmed that you did not require details of childcare providers on domestic premises such as childminders or home childcarers but did require information about childcare providers on non-domestic premises. You also confirmed that you would like the information for all schools and further education colleges for the regions specified but did not require social care providers.

Summary of response

We hold all of the information you have requested, and are able to disclose the majority of it to you. We are not able to disclose information about registered childcare providers based in women's refuges.

This is explained in full below.

The Freedom of Information Act

We have dealt with your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000. The first requirement of the Act is that we should confirm whether or not we hold information of the description set out in your request.

In this case I can confirm that, where applicable, we hold the names, Unique Reference Numbers (URNs), Local Authority establishment number, Government Office Region, Local Authority, Type of Establishment and Phase of Education for all establishments that are required to be registered with Ofsted; both open and closed, in the North West, East Midlands, London, West Midlands, Yorkshire and the Humber areas.

Under the FOI Act, we are under a duty to provide you with all the information we hold which falls within the scope of your request, provided it is not 'exempt' information.

Exempt Information

Section 38

Section 38 applies to information that, if disclosed, would or would likely endanger the physical or mental health of any individual or endanger the safety of any individual. Women's refuges house vulnerable women and their children, many of whom have moved there to escape domestic violence and other abuse. Very often, the location of the refuges is not widely publicised to prevent the residents being located by their abusers and subjected to threats and further violence. Consequently, the release of information about childcare based in the refuges would be likely to endanger the physical or mental health or the safety of the women and children who use these centres.

Again, section 38 is a qualified exemption, so we are required to apply the public interest test. We believe that the public interest is clearly in maintaining the exemption. The women and children that use these centres are vulnerable and the fact that their locations are not known to the public affords them greater protection and reduces the risk that they would suffer further harm. If we were to disclose the location of these refuges then it would make them ineffectual and would prompt many women who need the safety and anonymity offered by the refuge to not use this valuable service.

Details relating to provisions in all women's refuges have therefore not been provided to you.

Disclosed Information

Please find in the attached spreadsheets the information that we are able to disclose to you. With regard to the list of childcare providers on non-domestic premises we

hold information as to whether the registration is active with Ofsted or not. Therefore a setting marked as "closed" for the purposes of your request may still be operating but are no longer required to be registered with Ofsted.

Please note that the copyright and database rights of the information we are disclosing belong to the crown. Disclosure under the FOI Act does not entitle you to use the document in breach of the crown's copyright and database rights. The terms of re-use are that in any use of the material you must comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998. Subject to this, material may be reproduced in part or in whole free of charge in any format or medium for any non-commercial educational purposes, such as research, private study or for internal circulation within an organisation. This is subject to the material being reproduced accurately and not used in a misleading context. Where crown copyright/database right material is being republished or copied to others, the source of the material must be identified and the copyright status acknowledged. You should not present out of date material as if it is current. You are not entitled to use material subject to crown copyright or database rights for the principal purpose of advertising or promoting a particular product or service.

I trust that this letter clearly explains our decision. If you have any queries about our response, please contact me on 0300 013 1294 and I will do my best to address them.

Alternatively, if you are dissatisfied with our response or the handling of your request, you may request a formal internal review. In order to do this, please write to the following address, setting out which areas of the response you are unhappy with:

Email: Richxxx.xxxxxxx@xxxxxx.xxx.uk or write to:

Head of Information Rights
Commercial Services Division
Ofsted
Aviation House
125 Kingsway
London
WC2B 6SE

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you also have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether or not we have complied with our obligations under the FOI Act with respect to your request. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

FOI Case Reception Unit
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House

Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karon Crew", with a horizontal line underneath the signature.

Karon Crew
Information Delivery Officer
Information Management Team