



Northamptonshire County Council

By Email
Poppy Damon
request-558205-31b14278@whatdotheyknow.com

Please ask for: Freedom of Information
Tel: 01604 638360
Our ref: FR9044
Your ref:
Date: 25th March 2019

Dear Ms Damon,

Information Request: FR9044

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 4th March 2019 which was received by us on 5th March 2019. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act and is detailed below in italics with our response in bold.

(Please note the extract below has been taken directly from your original information request and is unedited).

Our Response

The Freedom of Information Team has been provided with the following information in response to your recent request on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council (NCC).

I am writing with a freedom of information request for data relating to the content and outcome of Return Home Interviews (RHIs) provided for runaway or missing children by your authority.

Please can you send over answers to the following:

+ How many recorded instances of missing then returned children did you have in your authority per year between Jan 1st 2014-Jan 1st 2019? If you can provide a per month break down please do.

+How many of these instances were children who had runaway more than once? If possible can you send a break down which shows a numbered list to indicate individual children and a second column with how many times they ran away? This would of course not include their name or any details.

+ A summary of the recorded outcomes or actions taken for all completed Return Home Interviews (for example a safeguarding referral, report to the police or to another service). I would like a breakdown of these for Jan 2014-Jan 2019. Ideally this would be laid out by outcome, beside a

Northamptonshire County Council
One Angel Square
Angel Street
Northampton, NN1 1ED

w. www.northamptonshire.gov.uk
t. 01604 368360
f. 01604 237004
e. freedomofinformation@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk



Northamptonshire
County Council

number of times this was taken. This would sit along side a number of how many RHIs were carried out in total per year. Excel or PDF formats are fine.

+ How many of these return interviews contained content about child exploitation?

Please see attached spreadsheet for answers to Q1-Q4.

Numbers less than 5 have been suppressed as the information could be used, together with other information already available in the public domain, to potentially identify vulnerable individuals.

We have therefore applied FOIA 2000 exemption s.40, Personal information, to this section of your request. Please see below for full details of the exemption:

40. - (1) Any information to which a request for information relates is exempt information if it constitutes personal data of which the applicant is the data subject.

(2) Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if-

(a) it constitutes personal data which do not fall within subsection (1), and

(b) either the first or the second condition below is satisfied.

(3) The first condition is-

(a) in a case where the information falls within any of paragraphs (a) to (d) of the definition of "data" in section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene-

(i) any of the data protection principles, or

**(ii) section 10 of that Act (right to prevent processing likely to cause damage or distress),
and**

(b) in any other case, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene any of the data protection principles if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 (which relate to manual data held by public authorities) were disregarded.

(4) The second condition is that by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 1998 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(c) of that Act (data subject's right of access to personal data).

(5) The duty to confirm or deny-

(a) does not arise in relation to information which is (or if

it were held by the public authority would be) exempt information by virtue of subsection (1), and
(b) does not arise in relation to other information if or to the extent that either-

- (i) the giving to a member of the public of the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) contravene any of the data protection principles or section 10 of the Data Protection Act 1998 or would do so if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of that Act were disregarded, or
- (ii) by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 1998 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(a) of that Act (data subject's right to be informed whether personal data being processed).

(6) In determining for the purposes of this section whether anything done before 24th October 2007 would contravene any of the data protection principles, the exemptions in Part III of Schedule 8 to the Data Protection Act 1998 shall be disregarded.

(7) In this section-

"the data protection principles" means the principles set out in Part I of Schedule 1 to the Data Protection Act 1998, as read subject to Part II of that Schedule and section 27(1) of that Act;
"data subject" has the same meaning as in section 1(1) of that Act;
"personal data" has the same meaning as in section 1(1) of that Act.

+How many times were the police notified of potential child exploitation, following a RHI?

All completed IRI's are shared with the Police, therefore they are notified of all concerns in relation to potential child exploitation.

+ Can you send me the hiring requirements for staff employed in-house to carry out RHIs? If you outsource this service please respond with who does this for you.

Please see attached job description for the workers who complete this task.

+If you do not outsource and complete RHIs yourself - could you please provide the aide memoire/guidelines/checklist that you use when completing Return Home Interviews?

CareFirst electronic form completed. Please see attached guide for staff.

The information supplied is provided for private use, such as non-commercial research purposes, and news reporting. Any other type of re-use will require the permission of the copyright owner under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015.

If you are unhappy with the response, you can ask the Council to review it. To do this please write to the address below:

Mr Simon Deacon
Reviewing Officer
Northamptonshire County Council
One Angel Square
Angel Street
Northampton
NN1 1ED

Email dataprotection@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk

If our internal review does not resolve the issue to your complete satisfaction, you have the right to apply to the information Commissioner for a decision at the following address:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Or, if you have any complaints in respect of your information request please complete the on-line comments form that can be found at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk, along with a full set of guidance.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information/Data Protection Team
Business Intelligence and Project Management
E-Mail- freedomofinformation@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk