

***Response letter sent by email***

25 July 2013

request-161046-  
bc3f6da8@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Clive Carter

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST**

Thank you for your email dated 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013 in which you requested information regarding care orders, special guardianship orders, adoptions and allegations in the last year.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 directs local authorities to confirm whether or not requested information is held. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held:

*1. How many applications for Care Orders have been made in the last accounting year?*

**Response:** 26

*2. How many children were:*

*(A) received into the interim care of the LA?*

**Response:** 52

*(B) accommodated under S. 20?*

**Response:** 125

*(C) made the subject of Full Care Orders?*

**Response:** 49

*(D) made the subject of Placement Orders?*

**Response:** 15

*(E) made the subject of Special Guardianship Orders?*

**Response:** 14

*(F) adopted ?*

**Response:** 10

*3. How many applications were made for:*

*(A) emergency protection orders?*

*(B) interim care orders?*

*(C) final care orders?*

*(D) placement orders?*

*(E) special guardianship orders?*

*And how many have been refused by a court?*

*4. How many S. 47 inquiries were undertaken by the LA? Please break down by:*

*(A) allegations against parents?*

*(B) allegations against foster careers?*

*(C) allegations against agency staff?*

*(D) allegations against LA staff?*

**Response:** I can confirm that we do hold this information but unfortunately it is not in an easily retrievable format nor is there an automated mechanism that would allow us to easily collate the required data.

It would take more than 18 working hours to collate the information requested in questions 3 and 4. In some circumstances we may agree to provide the information but ask the requester to contribute to the cost of meeting the request. In these circumstances, we will charge an hourly rate of £25 after the first 18 working hours.

*5. Please provide a schedule of the outcomes of the inquiries referred to above, in each category, specifying the result of the inquiry in each case.*

**Response:** I can confirm that we do hold this information but unfortunately it is not in an easily retrievable format nor is there an automated mechanism that would allow us to easily collate the required data.

It would take more than 18 working hours to collate the information requested in questions 5. In some circumstances we may agree to provide the information but ask the requester to contribute to the cost of meeting the request. In these circumstances, we will charge an hourly rate of £25 after the first 18 working hours.

*6. How many children were in the care of the Council at the beginning and at the year end?*

**Response:** Beginning: 305 and End: 302

*7. How many professionals have been referred to LADO?*

**Response:** 95

*How many investigations involved:*

*(A) a S. 47 inquiry?*

**Response:** 26

*(B) a police investigation?*

**Response:** 14

*(C) allegations that were unfounded?*

**Response:** 9

*Please provide a percentage breakdown of the types of allegations investigated.*

**Response:** S47 = 27%

Police investigations = 14%

Unfounded = 9%

Please note the information provided to you in this response is still covered by copyright legislation. You are not authorised to re-use this information for commercial or research purposes as defined by the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005. If you do wish to re-use this information please contact:

**The Information Governance Team  
3rd Floor, Maurice Bishop House  
Reading Lane  
London, E8 1HH**

If you are dissatisfied with this response and wish to appeal, please write to the below address and your complaint will be dealt with through our Internal Review procedure:

**The Information Governance Team  
Appeals,  
3rd Floor, Maurice Bishop House  
Reading Lane  
London, E8 1HH**

If you are still not satisfied following the Internal Review, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. He can be contacted at:

**Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Telephone: 01625 545 700**

[www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony O'Keefe', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Anthony O'Keefe  
Safeguarding & Learning Consultant**