Ms Val Gillies

Childrens Services - Commissioning
Westminster City Council
64 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 6QP

Our ref: 19724857   **Your ref:**   **Date:** 16 April 2021

Dear Ms Gillies

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request. You asked to be provided with information about the Council's use of data analytics, predictive analytics or artificial intelligence support systems used to support children's service provision.

Response

I can confirm that the information requested is held by Westminster City Council. I have detailed below the information that is being released to you.

1) **Has the council used any data analytics, predictive analytics and or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision?**

a. The council uses data analytics for performance and statutory reporting purposes. Data analytics activities include:

- Completing both statutory and non-statutory returns for government departments, ministries and other external and internal stakeholders
- Producing performance reports and PowerBi dashboards in the Social Care and Education domain to ensure Senior leaders, Services and teams are informed of key performance indicators and data quality assurance.

The council has not used predictive analytics or artificial intelligence systems to support children's services provision.

2) **Is the council using any data analytics, predictive analytics and or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision?**

The council is using data analytics for performance and statutory reporting purposes. The council is not using predictive analytics or artificial intelligence systems to support children's services provision.

3) **Is the council intending to use data analytics, predictive analytics, and or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision?**
   a. Yes

4) **Details of any briefing notes, reports, or summaries relating to the use or potential use of data analytics, predictive analytics, and or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision.**
   a. Data analytics are used for monitoring performance in social care. Measures are set against the CIN Census and SDA903 returns. No briefing notes, reports, or summaries available for discussion as they are used for business as usual performance information pieces.

5) **Any meeting minutes, reports, or presentation materials on the efficacy or impact of data analytics, predictive analytics, and or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision.**
   a. No

6) **Details of any third-party consultants or suppliers of data analytics, predictive analytics, or artificial intelligence systems including any contracts, memoranda of understanding, or other agreements (which may include but not exclusively data sharing agreements)**

In September 2019, Westminster City Council joined a nationwide project led by What Works for Children's Social Care- WWCSC(https://whatworks-csc.org.uk/) to test the feasibility of machine learning approaches in the social care system. This was an initiative funded by the Department for Education. More information about it can be found on the WWCSC website.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Information Management Team
64 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 6QP
foi@westminster.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Further information is also available from the Information Commissioner at:

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113 or 01625 54 57 45
Fax: 01625 524510
Web: www.ico.org.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Westminster Council