

Request for Information: Ref NCC-027867-17

Dear Freedom of Information officer,

I would like to request the following information from the council's social service department under the Freedom of Information Act (2000)

- How many allegations of a) sexual assault and b) sexual harassment has your council received relating to social service' staff in each of the past four calendar years? These include full time employees and contractors.
- In how many of the cases were any of the alleged victims under 18 at the time of the alleged offence?
- In how many of the cases were any of the alleged victim's current or former clients/customers?
- For each case, did it lead to i) internal disciplinary proceedings, ii) external disciplinary proceedings (i.e. through a regulator) and/or iii) a financial settlement?
- For each case, please provide a broad description of the allegations involved, including the number of alleged victims / alleged perpetrators; their age (within a 10-year band); the date of the alleged offence and whether the alleged perpetrator occupied a managerial position.
- For each case, please list the gender of the alleged perpetrator and the alleged victim. Alternatively, provide totals for the genders of the alleged perpetrators and alleged victims across all of your cases.
- For each case which was dealt with by disciplinary proceedings, please state how many alleged offenders were i) fired; ii) suspended, iii) received written or verbal warnings.
- Please provide the value of any financial settlement in each case.
- Did any settlements (financial or otherwise) include clauses placing any restriction on the ability of the alleged victim to discuss the events involved - or the council itself? If so, how many?

I would prefer to receive this information in an electronic format and I look forward to receiving a response within 20 working days.

Dear Requester

Thank you for your request for information relating to allegations of a) sexual assault and b) sexual harassment. We are sorry that on this occasion we are unable to provide the requested information, as this information is not recorded centrally in a way that would allow us to readily extract it and it would require a manual search of individual records to identify the detail you have requested.

You may be aware that there is a statutory limit to the amount of time authorities are required to spend retrieving and collating information in order to respond to a request. This is defined in the Fees and Appropriate Limit Regulations and currently stands at 2.5 days or 18 hours. We estimate that it will take one officer in excess of 2.5 days to locate the information you have requested.

This request would require a manual search of all staff records held over the 4 years stated and investigate each file for any complaints of the detail you have requested, which would take the estimated time/cost over the threshold.

Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act we are not obliged to process requests that exceed this limit. If you can narrow the scope of your request in some way we may be able to provide some information, although I cannot guarantee that this will be the case on this occasion.

We are sorry that we cannot be more helpful, and please accept our sincere apologies for the delay you have experienced in this case.

You have the right to ask us to review this decision. If you wish to do so or if you wish to raise any concerns about the way your request was dealt with, then please write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail complaints@nottsc.gov.uk quoting the reference number above.