

Dear

I am writing to you in reply to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Nottinghamshire County Council. Firstly I apologise for the delay in replying to you. Delays have occurred in our responses due to urgent pressures regarding the Coronavirus situation. I have the following information.

1. *How many Child Care legal professionals (or equivalent) are employed by the Council?*
22 (by headcount)

2. *Does the Council have a specific risk assessment for legal employees undertaking child care work which deals with the potential harm of being exposed to vicarious trauma?*

Nottinghamshire County Council's Legal Services Team do not have a specific risk assessment for childcare lawyers only.

3. *On average how many child care case files do the legal professionals have?*

Nottinghamshire County Council aims for full time practitioners to carry a caseload of approximately 13 cases.

4. *What policies (if any) are in place which highlight the risk of Council employees experiencing ill health as a result of exposure to vicarious trauma?*

There is no specific policy in place.

5. *What steps has the Council implemented to minimise the risk to its employees' health as a result of being exposed to vicarious trauma?*

Employees have access to an in-house Occupational Health team and access to professional counselling services.

6. *Within the last 6 years how many legal professionals working in child care have submitted sick notes for stress or other mental health condition, citing their work as a contributing factor?*

There have been no staff absences over the last 6 years attributed to work related stress within this cohort.

7. *Within the last 6 years, how many working days have been lost by child care Solicitors or similar legal professionals, citing stress or other mental health condition as a contributing factor for their absence?*

There have been no staff absences over the last 6 years attributed to work related stress within this cohort.

8. *For the last 6 years, please advise as to the number of claims made against the Council for negligence and/or breach of the Human Rights Act in relation to deprivation of liberty and/or failure to act or remove children?*

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If you have any queries or concerns then please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information Team, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail foi@nottscc.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

John Allison
Information Officer
Chief Executive's Department
Nottinghamshire County Council