NCC-046072-20 Social workers & child sexual abuse

Dear Requester,

Further to your request for information under the freedom of information act, having investigated the data available to us we are unable to answer the questions on Victims and Alleged abusers.

The reasons for this are:

- We record details of cases that are related to alleged sexual abuse as well as substantiated abuse but cannot separate them so cannot provide the number of victims of sexual abuse
- To establish whether the abuse was substantiated or not would involve manually investigating 200-300 cases and looking through case notes which would take us over the threshold allowed under the act s.12
- We do not record in any reportable format, details of alleged abusers and do not record their age/ethnicity/gender
- Details of any referrals to the police of abusers or victims of abuse is also not held in a reportable format and would require manual case review which would take us over the threshold allowed under the act s.12

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act allows public authorities to refuse to answer requests for information if the cost of complying would exceed the 'appropriate limit' prescribed in the Fees Regulations.

This means that the appropriate limit will be exceeded as it would require more than 24 hours work. We are sorry we are unable to help on this occasion.

We trust this now resolves your enquiry and where we have not been able to provide details we expect that this information is not held by Nottinghamshire county Council at this time.

We suggest all requesters search under our publication scheme in advance of requesting information under the freedom of information act.

Nottinghamshire County Council regularly publishes previous FOIR, s and answers on its website, under Disclosure logs. (see link) http://site.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/

You can use the search facility using keywords. i.e. un regulated / care / home etc.

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 email complaints@nottscc.gov.uk.

Kind Regards
Complaints and Information Team
Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall

Dear Sir or Madam,

I'm a freelance journalist.

I am sending this request under the Freedom of Information Act to ask for the following information.

Social workers

Please would you let me know how many social workers you employed between 1 Jan-31 Dec 2018, 1 Jan-31 Dec 2019 and 1 Jan-30 June 2020?

I would like the figures broken down into:

- 1. total number
- 2. those who work only with children
- 3. gender

The racial breakdown would be great - but not at the detriment of time and only if it is easy to access.

Victims

I would also like to know how many victims of child sexual abuse you have dealt with and how many were referred to the police between 1 Jan-31 Dec 2018, 1 Jan-31 Dec 2019 and 1 Jan-30 June 2020.

I would like the figures broken down into:

- 1. racial/ethnic groups of victims e.g. white; Indian; Pakistani; Bangladeshi; African; Caribbean or whichever way your service breaks down the racial/ethnic groups.
- 2. age group e.g. 0-5; 6-10; 11-13; 14-17; or whichever way your service breaks down the age groups.
- 3. gender.

Alleged abusers

I would also like to know how many suspected/alleged perpetrators of child sexual abuse you have dealt with and how many were referred to the police between 1 Jan-31 Dec 2018, 1 Jan-31 Dec 2019 and 1 Jan-30 June 2020.

I would like the figures broken down into:

- 1. racial/ethnic groups of suspects e.g. white; Indian; Pakistani; Bangladeshi; African; Caribbean or whichever way your service breaks down the racial/ethnic groups.
- 2. age group e.g. 0-10; 11-17; 18-30; 31-59; 60-70; 70+ or whichever way your service breaks down the age groups.
- 3. gender.

I am happy for you to supply the raw data in an excel spreadsheet which I can analyse.

I am requesting this information because I cannot find it on your website.

I believe you have the information in an easily tabulated form which you can supply on an excel spread sheet, which will not require your going over the hours necessary where you need to charge me because they will be discussed by councillors concerned about safeguarding and other issues.

If you are able to supply some of this information more quickly than other items, please supply each item as soon as it becomes available.

If it is necessary for any reason to redact any information, please redact the minimum necessary and send me the rest of the document(s), explaining the legal grounds for each redaction.

Under FOI guidelines you have twenty working days to answer these questions. Please acknowledge receipt of this request.

If you are not the right person to deal with this request, please would you pass it to the appropriate colleague and ask them to deal with it.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully,