

Request for Information: Ref NCC-025594-17

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act for information about incidences where Nottinghamshire County Council has instigated child protection or safeguarding procedures because of concerns about Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII) or Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy (MSP)

You asked:

- 1) I am applying under the FOI Act for the five years individually from 2012-2017 for the number of times your Social Services department or your legal department has instigated child protection/ safeguarding procedures because of concerns about "Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII) or Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy (MSP).
- 2) Can you also tell us whether the allegation was made by an educational professional, health professional, social services professional or non-professional.
- 3) Can you also tell us whether at any stage during the process the child involved had a diagnosis of ME (Myalgic Encephalomyelitis) or CFS (Chronic Fatigue Syndrome).

Unfortunately we don't capture this in the social care system in a reportable format (it's not one of our 'factors'). We also don't have the reporting capability to identify this using a 'word search'. To be able to respond to this would require the manual search of 1000's of case files, or the development of a new reporting solution to search on these key words – both of these would take in excess of 18 hours for one officer to complete, even if we were to just look at a single year of data.

Unfortunately, we do not consider it appropriate to rely upon Officers within Social Services or legal team holding/remembering this knowledge, as officer's move between positions and between Local Authorities and so we could not provide accurate information this way.

I'm sorry that we cannot be of more help to you in this matter. If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, please email us at foi@nottsc.gov.uk