

Dear,

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request.

I am now able to provide you with the information supplied by the relevant department, as follows:

Please note NCC is a local authority, not "Local Education Authority"

1. The number of investigations carried out (or commissioned) by the LA into suspected fraudulent school place applications.

NCC carried out investigations into the following number of applications for community or voluntary controlled schools

2012-13	1
2013-14	1
2014-15	1
2015-16	1
2016-17	3
2017-18	1

2. The number of school place offers withdrawn, broken down into primary and secondary places.

NCC, as the admission authority for community and voluntary controlled schools withdrew the following places

2014-15	1 primary place
2016-17	1 primary place
2017-18	1 primary place

3. The percentage of these withdrawals that led to appeals by parents.

Information not held

4. The percentage of these appeals won by parents.

N/A

5. Details of the LA's policy for detecting fraudulent school place applications.

Nottinghamshire County Council requests documentary evidence as confirmation of a change of address. We will investigate any application where there are doubts about the information provided and we undertake random checks to verify that information provided by parents is genuine. If we receive an application where the address is proven to be fraudulent, any offer based on that address may be withdrawn. Applicants are also informed that providing misleading or fraudulent information on an application could also constitute an offence which might result in the County Council starting legal proceedings against the person providing a false statement.

Plus, the below info, which is not limited to suspected fraudulent school place applications but to admission decisions in general.

Questions 6 & 7

Democratic Services do not hold the number of total applications per academic year, therefore we are unable to provide a percentage figure as requested in questions 6 and 7. Please find attached the total number of Local Authority appeals over the last 8 years.

Academic year	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19*
Lodged	595	422	481	512	1035	1104	763	443
Withdrawn settled	280	133	131	140	329	356	249	10
Heard	315	289	350	372	706	748	514	182
Successful	77	57	77	58	148	220	192	36
Unsuccessful	238	232	273	314	558	528	322	146

* Part year to 1st September 2018

Government collated statistics on appeals are available at
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-admission-appeals>

I hope this now satisfies your request, and should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me directly on the details below.

In addition to this and for future reference Nottingham 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.

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 foi@nottsc.gov.uk quoting the reference number above.

Kind Regards

Complaints, Information & Mediation Officer.
Complaints and Information Team
Chief Executive's Dept
Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP