

## Ref NCC-032729-18 Settlement agreements / claims

Dear Sirs,

### **Request for Information: Ref NCC-032729-18 Settlement agreements / claims**

Thank you for your request, for information relating to Settlement agreements / claims. I can now let you have the following information in response to the questions you raised.

For ease of reference I have set out the questions below and supplied the Council's responses in **bold** I also attach a table which gives the answers to the questions on a case by case basis.

1. Has the Council at any point in the last 29 years entered into any form of settlement agreement with any complainant (or any complainant's representative/nominee) whose complaint was that he/she had been sexually abused by an individual within the Council's jurisdiction/employ (including, without limitation, foster carer,s, social carer,s and school teachers) when he/she was under the age of 16?

2. For the avoidance of doubt, the scope of Question 1 includes settlements entered into by the Council's insurers. Information held by the Council's insurers is "held" by the Council under section 3(2)(b) of the Act. **Yes. For the purpose of this request, we have defined the term 'settlement agreement with any complainant' as a civil claim from any claimant where Nottinghamshire County Council has agreed to settle with damages paid to the claimant as a result of the criteria outlined in this question.**

If the answer to Question 1 is "yes", please identify for each such complainant without, for the avoidance of doubt, providing the name of any complainant):

(a) the date on which the relevant complaint was received;

**Detailed in the table provided (see notes below<sup>2</sup>).**

(b) the Council employee or external party who had conduct of the complaint; **No one individual/party has sole responsibility. Nottinghamshire County Council's Risk and Insurance team has overall responsibility for the investigation and processing of civil claims with input from various other teams/colleagues within the Council, as well as external legal advisors and insurers.**

(c) the firm of solicitors which had conduct of the complaint on behalf of the complainant (or alternatively confirm that the complainant had no legal representation); **Detailed in the table provided.**

(d) the date on which the settlement agreement was entered into; **Detailed in the table provided. (see notes below<sup>3</sup>).**

(e) the amount paid by way of consideration to the complainant under the terms of the agreement (whether that amount was paid by the Council, its insurers or another party on behalf of the Council); **Detailed in the table provided.**

(f) a brief, anonymized summary of the claim without giving any details of the complainant or the name of the person alleged to have abused the complainant; **Detailed in the table provided.**

(g) whether the settlement agreement contained a term or terms providing that the details of the complaint, complainant, alleged victim, alleged perpetrator and/or specific surrounding circumstances of the alleged abuse must be kept confidential from any person; **Nottinghamshire County Council has not imposed any such terms on claimants in connection with these settlements**

(h) the identity of the officer or officers within the Council who approved the terms of settlement; and **As in 2(b).**

(i) the identity of any legal adviser with whom the Council engaged in connection with the settlement agreement. Not requesting any details of any legal advice received. This request is only to be provided

with the name of the adviser or advisers. **Detailed in the table provided.**

We trust this resolves your enquiry, however should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me directly on the details below.

Nottinghamshire County Council regularly publishes previous FOIRs and answers on its website, under Disclosure logs. (see link)

<http://site.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/>

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](mailto:complaints@nottscc.gov.uk).

Kind Regards