

Dear

I am writing to you in reply to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Nottinghamshire County Council. I have the following information.

How many of the looked after child asylum seekers that were in the council's care on 30th November 2019 had at some point previously spent time on the main adult asylum seeker scheme?

As of 30th November 2019, there is one young person that had previously spent some time within the process of applying for asylum within the adult route due to being identified as being over 18 years upon their presentation to the Local Authority. However, following a claim that they were in fact under 18 years, they were immediately accommodated by Nottinghamshire Social Care and a Merton Compliant Age Assessment was undertaken, which resulted in the young person being accommodated as a Looked After Child (Children Act 1989).

Nottinghamshire Social Care, Nottingham City Social Care and Nottinghamshire Police (through links with the Home Office) operate a joint response protocol identified as 'Operation Innerste' in respect to any person claiming to be under the age of 18 years old and seeking asylum in Nottinghamshire/Nottingham City. Therefore, all those persons claiming to be children will be treated as children whilst their claim is assessed via a Merton Compliant Age Assessment.

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
County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QP
Telephone: 0115 977 2788