

FOI Reference Number: FOI/348/1920

Date: 20/01/2020

Request:

Dear All,

Ref: Freedom of Information Request

Under the FOI (2000) I request you provide the following information;

Internal and External (Including to AND from schools and other Local Authorities) guidance, advice, policy, direction regarding the interpretation of the Statutory guidance on the exclusion of pupils from local-authority-maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units.

Specifically, I would like all information relating to the Local Authorities view (as expressed via email/publications/memos/internal documents) on whether the GDC are required to review ALL permanent exclusions OR only those NOT rescinded by the Head teacher.

According to the ICO, you must respond within 20 days with the information requested (please see <https://ico.org.uk/media/1165/time-for-compliance-foia-guidance.pdf>)

If you are not able to deal with this directly, please forward it to the officer responsible for FOI requests.

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 17/12/2019.

Please find below Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to exclusion of pupils from local-authority-maintained schools.

Please note that in Northern Ireland district councils are not responsible for the provision of schools. Please contact the Education Authority who should be able to help you with your request.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of part of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Chief Executive at the Braid Ballymena Town Hall, 1-29 Bridge Street, Ballymena, BT43 5EJ.

Please remember to quote the reference number FOI/348/1920 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Please be advised that Mid and East Antrim Borough Council may release the response to this information request into the public domain via our website at <https://www.midandeastantrim.gov.uk/>.

If we publish our response to your request, your personal data will be removed to protect your privacy.