

FOI Reference Number: FOI/411/1819

Date: 11/12/2018

Request:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to make an open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act.

In order to assist you with this request, I am outlining my query as specifically as possible.

If however this request is too wide or too unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters. The request today concerns the issue of looked after children.

Under the act, I request the following information:

1) How many children are currently externally placed in the care of other local authorities;

2) Please detail the accommodation costs incurred, per annum, per child, by the council in arranging for the child to be externally placed. Please present this information in an entirely anonymised format (e.g. Child A, Child B etc).

I understand that under the Act, I should be entitled to a response within 20 working days.

I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 11/12/2018.

Please find below Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to children externally placed in the care of other local authorities.

Please note that in Northern Ireland district councils are not responsible for the provision of social care. Please contact the Northern Health and Social Care Trust 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/411/1819 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.