

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 003501
Date 25 April 2019

Autism and Councils

Request:

I'm emailing to submit the following request under the Freedom of Information Act.

- Please provide a copy of your policy for dealing with assessments of disabled children by your children with disabilities team. The relevant department will be Children's Services or equivalent.
[There is no separate policy relating specifically to the assessment of disabled children, they would all be assessed within a Single assessment Document with the application of the Criteria document for disabled children](#)
- How do you assess and support children who are autistic but have no other disability? Please provide a copy of any policies you have for assessing and supporting children who are autistic but who have no other disability.
[All children requiring an assessment would be assessed using the single assessment and based on assessed need, appropriate services would be accessed. Some cases would be held in the disabled children & young people team whilst some cases would be held & progressed within Strengthening family Hubs under S17/S47 or Early Help whilst some cases may involve children in care.](#)
- For the financial years (start of April to end of March) 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, please provide the number of children with autism who have been:
 - declined an assessment by your children with disabilities team;
 - referred to another team within Children's services for an assessment;
 - [2014-15 – 31](#)
 - [2015-16 – 31](#)
 - [2016-17 – 34](#)
 - [2017-18 – 26](#)
 - [2018-19 – 17](#)and
 - declined any assessment whatsoever in each of the financial years detailed above.
[Following reasonable enquiries, it has been established that the Council does not hold the requested information for points 1 and 3.](#)

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("The Act"), that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".