

Northamptonshire County Council

By E-Mail Ms F Nicholson matilda.fiona@googlemail.com Please ask for: Tel· Our Ref: Your ref:

Date:

Freedom of Information 01604 367407/368360

FR3828

15th January 2013

Dear Ms Nicholson,

Information Request: FR3828

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 27th December 2012. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is detailed below in italics with our response in bold.

Our Response

The Freedom of Information Team has been provided with the following information in response to your recent request on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council (NCC).

I am carrying out research on the availability of services and support for home educated children with SEN and disabilities throughout England in the wake of the Education Committee's recent Report into Support for Home Education which urged local authorities to comply with statutory guidance and to ensure that home-educated young people with SEN or medical conditions are not being discriminated against.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmselect/cmeduc/559/559.pdf

1/Could you please tell me:

a/the total number of children in your authority with a statement of SEN 3776 b/the number of home educated children in your authority with a statement of SEN 5 c/the number of home educated children of primary age with a statement of SEN 1 d/the number of home educated children of secondary age with a statement of SEN 4 e/the number of statements for home educated children categorised as having "moderate learning difficulty" (if the authority has a banding system, please could you indicate the number of home educated children within the relevant statement bands) 1

f/the number of statements for home educated children with physical disabilities 0 q/the number of statements for home educated children with speech, language and communication needs 1

h/the number of statements for home educated children with autism spectrum disorders 2 i/the number of statements for home educated children with severe or complex learning difficulties (if the authority has a banding system, please could you indicate the number of home educated children within the relevant statement bands) 1

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j/the number of home educated children with a statement of SEN who formerly attended a special school (if known) 2

k/the number of children with a statement of SEN who started home education during the calendar year 2012 1

I/the number of children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than 2 years 4

m/the number of home educated children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than 5 years **1**

n/the number of children with a statement of SEN who ceased to be home educated during the calendar year 2012 because they started to attend school **3**

2/Within your authority - not including the provision of assessments/reports for the annual review of the statement of SEN - do home educated children have access to any of the following: a/educational psychology service

Home educated children have access to educational psychology services for pre- or poststatement work on the same basis as state-funded schools within this authority. Most of this work is provided on a commissioned basis

b/occupational therapy services and equipment

Children referred to the service will be assessed and intervention take place following care pathways and service specification. Venues for intervention will be as appropriate and may be within clinic settings or within the home.

c/speech and language therapy – a health provision so unable to comment on their behalf

d/CAMHS Yes, all children who are home educated have access to CAMHS.

3/Does the authority have a specific policy with regard to provision of services and support listed in Part 3 of the statement when a child with a statement of SEN is home educated? If yes, could you please summarise the policy, for example if the authority does not make provision available when a child is home educated

No specific policy reference found. Home visits are carried out initially with an Educational Psychologist on a statmented child commencing EHE to review the statement.

4/How many home educated children with a statement of SEN will be entered on the Alternative Provision Census under the category Not a School, for SEN support (deadline Thursday January 17th 2013.

 $\underline{http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/parents/involvement/homeeducation/a0073322/funding-for-home-education})$

None

Additional request received on 3rd January 2013

Please could you tell me the amount spent on home education services for the academic year 2011-12. I would be grateful if you could itemise staff costs, administrative/secretarial support

costs, and also the total spend on provision of services for home educated children and young people.

Funding was obtained through the Local operational Teams (LOTs) to support 4 EHE area conferences with a total budget of £5.3k.

0.3 FTE secretarial costs for data management and administration – cost approx £6.5k . LA officer time approx 0.4 FTE – cost approx £17k Total spend in 11-12 approx £29k

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If you are unhappy with the way in which the Council has handled your request, you can ask the Council to review it. To do this please write to the address below:

Mark Shelswell
Customer and Communities Manager
Business Intelligence and Performance Improvement
Northamptonshire County Council
Ground Floor
John Dryden House
8-10 The Lakes
Bedford Road
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NN4 7YD

If our internal review does not resolve the issue to your complete satisfaction, you have the right to apply to the information Commissioner for a decision at the following address:

Information Commissioner Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Or, if you have any complaints in respect of your information request please complete the on-line comments form that can be found at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk, along with a full set of guidance.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information/Data Protection Officer
Business Intelligence and Performance Improvement
E-Mail-freedomofinformation@northamptonshire.gov.uk