

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 002872
Date 16 October 2018

Children in Police Custody

Request:

I am writing to kindly request information regarding the arrangements in your local authority for fulfilling obligations under section 21(2)(b) of the Children Act 1989 to receive, and provide accommodation for, children in police custody following their arrest when requested to do so by the police under section 38(6) PACE 1984.

Could you please provide us with the following information:

1. what accommodation is available, for fulfilling its obligations under section 21(2)(b) of the Children Act 1989 ("s 38 beds"), how much of this accommodation is secure and non-secure;
[We have access to 2 non-secure PACE beds in city.](#)
2. the number of times in the year to 01 October 2018 you have been contacted and asked to receive, and provide accommodation (secure and non-secure) for, children under section 38(6) PACE 1984;
[In response to your above question, we can confirm that we have had no children come in to care under PACE in the current statutory year.](#)
3. the number of times in the in the year to 01 October you have provided such accommodation (secure and non-secure) following a police request under s38(6) PACE 1984; and
[In response to your above question, we can confirm that we have had no children come in to care under PACE in the current statutory year.](#)
4. whether you currently have a policy for fulfilling the statutory obligations under section 21(2)(b) Children Act 1989 and, if so, what that policy is. If a policy document exists we would be grateful if you could please provide us with a copy, as well as a copy of all previous policy.
[A west midlands regional protocol is currently being developed.](#)