

## Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 1015151  
Date 29 October 2015

### ***Children Act***

#### **Request:**

I am writing to request the following information for each of the years 2013, 2014 and 2015 (to date):

1. Number of s.20 Children Act (i.e. voluntary removal) agreements entered into by the City Council with parent(s);

<b>FY</b>	<b>S20 New Starts</b>	<b>Under Police Protection moving to S20</b>	<b>Total of S20 New Starts + 'UPP to S20' moves</b>
2012-13 FY	138	19	157
2013-14 FY	186	25	211
2014-15 FY	155	31	186
2015-16 FY	56	5	61
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>615</b>

2. Number of public law care (i.e. removal of children) proceedings issued;  
54

3. Number of public law care proceedings issued and subsequently withdrawn;  
No proceedings have been withdrawn.

4. A breakdown of (2) above broken down by (i) race, (ii) religion, and (iii) constituency (e.g. Ward End);

5. A breakdown of (3) above broken down by (i) race, (ii) religion, and (iii) constituency (e.g. Ward End);

In response to questions 4 and 5 above, the information you have requested has been withheld from disclosure. The exemption engaged is Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

Section 12 of the FOI exempts Public Authorities from providing information where the estimated cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. Any estimate must be undertaken in accordance with the limits set in fees regulations made under Section 12 (5) of the FOI.

These Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244 Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations) allow for a refusal where the cost of compliance, for local authorities such as the Council, would exceed £450. As a guide, staff time to identify and extract this information is charged at a rate of £25 per hour.

In summary in estimating the cost of complying with questions 4 and 5 of your request, it would take over 18 hours to produce this which would include:

- “(a) determining whether it holds the information,
- (b) locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,
- (c) retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information,  
and
- (d) extracting the information from a document containing it”.