



## Information Governance Team

Postal Address:  
Coventry City Council  
PO Box 15  
Council House  
Coventry  
CV1 5RR

[www.coventry.gov.uk](http://www.coventry.gov.uk)

E-mail: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

Phone: 024 7697 5408

07 June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI613077722**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Families with no recourse to public funds.

You have requested the following information:

**We write to request the following information under the FOIA in relation to assessments of, and the provision of support to, families with No Recourse to Public Funds (“NRPF”) seeking access to support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. If you require any further clarification as to our request, kindly inform us promptly and we would be happy to assist.**

### **Contact details**

**1. Does your local authority have a separate team dealing with requests for support under section 17 Children Act 1989, for example an 'NRPF team'?**

Coventry Children's Services does not have a separate team to support families who are NRPF.

**2. If yes, please provide contact details for this team (telephone and email)**

Please see above.

**3. If no, please confirm where referrals for such support should be directed to and provide contact details (telephone and email)**

Referrals for support for are made to Coventry Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

Telephone number: 02476 788555.

**4. Please also provide contact details for the relevant legal team supporting children's services or dedicated NRPF team (telephone and email)**

Coventry City Council  
Solicitor - Legal Services  
PO Box 15  
Council House  
Coventry  
CV1 5RR

**5. Is the local authority a member of NRPF Connect?**

Yes.

**Policies**

**6. Do you have any guidance or policy documents or other such written material in respect of undertaking assessments and providing support pursuant to section 17 of the Children Act 1989 to families with no recourse to public funds (including documents specific to this issue, or of more general application but covering this issue)?**

Yes.

**7. If yes, please provide us with a copy.**

The policy is currently under review and not yet published.

To assist, Coventry Childrens Services Procedures Manual provides brief guidance to working with NRPF families under – 'Working with Families who have No Recourse to Public Funds'. This guidance is used in conjunction with the NRPF Network – [www.nrpfnetwork.org.uk](http://www.nrpfnetwork.org.uk)

All families are assessed on an individual needs basis to evidence whether the Local Authority can legally support the family.

**Assessments**

**8. How many families/children approached the local authority for support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024?**

109 families, 216 Children.

**9. How many of the families/children who approached the local authority for support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 went on to receive a) financial support; b) accommodation; C) both**

Between 1 April 2023 and 31st March 2024, Coventry City Council have supported:

- a) 5 families, 10 children
- b) None
- c) 46 families, 98 children

**10. How many of the families/children identified in question 8 had no recourse to public funds (either because of a restriction on their leave to remain or because they were undocumented)?**

51 families, 108 children.

**11. How many families/children with no recourse to public funds received a) financial**

**support; b) accommodation; C) both under section 17 following their assessment?**

- a) 5 families, 10 children.
- b) None
- c) 46 families, 98 children

**12. How many pregnant persons approached the local authority for support under section 17 between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024. Of these, a) how many of the pregnant persons had no recourse to public funds, and b) how many of the pregnant persons with no recourse to public funds went on to receive a) financial support; a) financial support: b accommodation c both**

10 pregnant persons approached the Local Authority for support under section 17 between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.

**How many pregnant persons had no recourse to public funds.**

- a) 2
- b) 0
- c) 8

**13. Does the local authority pay a minimum rate of financial support to families/children with NRPF, who have no other means of income, under Section 17. If so, what is this rate?**

Yes, the local authority do pay a minimum rate to families that are NRPF.

The rates are reviewed in line with the national annual increase and currently are in line with the Asylum Support rate changes effective from the 8th January 2024.

The rates are as follows:

- £49.19 per adult
- £49.18 per child
- £5.25 Pregnancy payment
- £9.50 child aged 0-1 years.
- £5.25 child aged 1-3 years.
- £5.25 child aged 3 years.
- £300 Maternity Grant

**14. the local authority provide any additional payments, such as for young children, pregnant mothers, or maternity grants? If yes, please specify.**

Please see above. In addition to the payments above, we can also provide:

- £24.10 gas per week
- £24.10 electricity per week
- £8.10 for water per week
- Bus passes if required.

**Accommodation**

**15. How many families with no recourse to public funds were supported to remain in their own accommodation by the local authority contributing to rent under section 17 between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022?**

This information is not available. We are therefore advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act that this information is not held.

**16. Please provide a list of the types of properties that have been used to accommodate families under section 17 between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022 (e.g., self-contained flat, HMO, B&B) and a breakdown of how many families were accommodated in each type of accommodation in this time period.**

Self contained flats/houses or B&B

We advise figures for this information is not available.

**17. Does the local authority provide accommodation to families under section 17 that does not have access to kitchen space or cooking facilities?**

All facilities provided for families have cooking facilities or provisions for hot food and included.

**18. If your response to question 16 is yes, between the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022: How many families were placed in accommodation with no access to kitchen space and/or cooking facilities?**

None.

## Spending

**19. Between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 what was the total cost to the local authority of providing support to**

**a. Families under section 17; and**

**b. This information is not available.**

**c. All families with no recourse to public funds under section 17**

This information is not available.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**