

FOI 2702

18th October 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Please assume that foster carers include kinship and non-kinship foster carers for this request.

Q1. Does the Health and Social Care Trust fostering service share foster carer's personal data with the Fostering Network?

Response:

The Southern Trust does share fosters carers' personal data with the Fostering Network.

Q2. Please provide a list of foster carer's specific personal data that the Health and Social Care Trust shares with the Fostering Network (e.g. name, address, phone number, email address, other, please specify).

Response:

The Southern Trust provide names and addresses, telephone numbers and E mail addresses.

Q3. Please provide a copy of the consent form used by the Health and Social Care Trust to enable foster carers to give explicit permission to share their data with the Fostering Network.

Response:

The Trust do not have a specific consent form which carers are asked to sign for the purposes of sharing information with fostering network.

Q4. Does this consent form provide for an individual foster carer to give explicit permission or is the permission given on a household basis?

Response:

As above.

Q5. At what frequency is this data routinely shared and updated (for example annually)?

Response:

This data is shared following carers approval at the Fostering Panel.

Q6 Please provide a copy of the data sharing agreement/ protocol which manages the sharing of foster carers data between the Health and Social Care Trust and the Fostering Network.

Response:

None available.

Q7. Please provide the number of foster carers who have given explicit consent for their personal data to be shared with the Fostering Network.

Response:

During the assessment process carers are advised that they will become members of fostering network and they will have insurance cover in respect of any legal expenses. All applicants have accepted this information.

Q8. Please provide the number of foster carers who have refused to give explicit consent for their personal data to be shared with the Fostering Network.

Response:

No carer has refused to have their details shared.

Q9. Please provide the number of foster carers who have not been asked by the Health and Social Care Trust if they give or refuse permission to have their personal data shared with the Fostering Network.

Response:

See information provided above.

Email: Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net