

From: [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI-18-0111 - No Recourse to Public Funds
Date: 14 February 2018 15:19:57
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your information request of 23 January 2018. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

I am looking for information on the support provided by the council to people (and their dependents) assessed as having No Recourse To Public Funds (NRPF) under Section 115 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

For each of the last three calendar years where information is available (Please provide figures for each year):

Please note, while our Duty Social Work and Mental Health Teams within the Health and Social Care Partnership will have provided support to some clients who would be considered to have no recourse to public funds, this is not a classification used in our recording system and we do not hold this information electronically. Also, people who are subject to immigration control means that they are not a national of an European Economic Area (EEA) and a) require leave to enter or remain or b) has leave to enter or remain but is subject to a condition that they have "No Recourse to Public Funds" An individual with "No Recourse to Public Funds" has no entitlement to mainstream social security benefits, local authority housing or homeless assistance.

Therefore people who have "No Recourse to Public funds" are not entitled to Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction or Scottish Welfare Fund.

How many people with NRPF status have approached the council to request financial assistance? To clarify, by financial assistance, I mean the costs to the council of providing funding to support accommodation costs, or any other subsistence, childcare or welfare allowances, provided to people with NRPF status.

a) 2017 – Not known.

b) 2016 – Not known.

c) 2015 – Not known.

Please note, Children's Social Work offer support to Children and their families across social work, which could include children whose parents have no recourse to public funds. Any financial assistance that we have provided as a service is for the care and wellbeing of children, this would not be given on the basis of recourse to public funds but rather under our remit of Child Protection.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **How many people with NRPF status have approached the council to request financial assistance** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice

that this information is not held by it.

How many people with NRPf status subsequently received financial assistance from the council following an approach? How many people were refused financial support? To clarify, by financial assistance, I mean the costs to the council of providing funding to support accommodation costs, or any other subsistence, childcare or welfare allowances, provided to people with NRPf status.

	Received	Refused
a) 2017 -	Not known.	Not known.
b) 2016 -	Not known.	Not known.
c) 2015 -	Not known.	Not known.

There is no obligation to record or report on this information. ACC is not required to hold the information for any legislative, business and/or best practice reasons.

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ACC is unable to provide you with information on **How many people with NRPf status subsequently received financial assistance from the council following an approach? How many people were refused financial support?** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

How many people with NRPf status that subsequently received financial assistance from the council following an approach also had dependent children? How many people with NRPf status and dependent children were refused financial support? To clarify, by financial assistance, I mean the costs to the council of providing funding to support accommodation costs, or any other subsistence, childcare or welfare allowances, provided to people with NRPf status.

- a) 2017** – Not known.
- b) 2016** – Not known.
- c) 2015** – Not known.

There is no obligation to record or report on this information. ACC is not required to hold the information for any legislative, business and/or best practice reasons.

Please note, Children's Social Work offer support to Children and their families across social work, which could include children whose parents have no recourse to public funds. Any financial assistance that we have provided as a service is for the care and wellbeing of children, this would not be given on the basis of recourse to public funds but rather under our remit of Child Protection.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **How many people with NRPF status that subsequently received financial assistance from the council following an approach also had dependent children? How many people with NRPF status and dependent children were refused financial support?** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

What is the total amount spent by the local authority on supporting people with NRPF status? Please break this down into annual housing costs and subsistence costs.

a) 2017 – Not known.

b) 2016 – Not known.

c) 2015 – Not known.

There is no obligation to record or report on this information. ACC is not required to hold the information for any legislative, business and/or best practice reasons.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **What is the total amount spent by the local authority on supporting people with NRPF status?** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

We offer support to Children and their families across social work, which could include those with no recourse to public funds. However 'no recourse to public funds' is not a classification used in our electronic records.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **What is the total amount spent by the local authority on supporting people with NRPF status (children and their families across social work)** as the cost of providing it has been calculated as being in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). To explain this, it would involve an ACC Officer interrogating 4689 files (for 2016). This has been calculated at 30 minutes per file, which equates to 2344.5 hours, at the cost of £35,167 in total.

In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby give notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 12 - Excessive Cost of Compliance - of the FOISA.

ACC would be happy to discuss ways in which you may refine your request, so we can provide some information of interest to you within the maximum cost limits. Please do contact the Information Compliance team, who will be happy to advise you, if this is something you would like to pursue.

How many children of people with NRPF status have been taken into care by the local authority?

a) 2017

b) 2016

c) 2015

Recourse to funds or lack of accommodation in itself would not be a factor for removing a child from parental care. Children would only become Looked After and Accommodated Children if there were child protection concerns and/or the child was at significant risk of harm and legal proceedings on these grounds had been duly followed under the Children (Scotland) Act. Social work will try to keep parent and child together wherever possible and will offer various supports within our remit with a view to achieving this, however there would be cases where this would not be in the best interests of the child.

'No recourse to public funds' is not a classification used in our electronic records.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **How many children of people with NRPF status have been taken into care by the local authority** as the cost of providing it has been calculated as being in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). To explain this, it would involve an ACC Officer interrogating 4689 files (for 2016). This has been calculated at 30 minutes per file, which equates to 2344.5 hours, at the cost of £35,167 in total.

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If any information is shared by the local authority to the Department of Work and Pensions (or other UK Government entity) on people with NRPF status receiving support, please confirm what personal information is shared. If any regular reports are provided to these government agencies please supply a copy of the most recent report provided.

None.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Grant Webster
Information Compliance Officer

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

ACC handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

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*03000 numbers are free to call if you have 'free minutes' included in your mobile call plan.
Calls from BT landlines will be charged at the local call rate of 10.24p per minute (the same as 01224s).

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