

**From:** [Foi Enquiries](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI-16-0796 - Named Person Scheme  
**Date:** 20 July 2016 13:10:07  
**Attachments:** [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

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Dear [REDACTED]

Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your information request of 12 June 2016. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

**This is a Freedom of Information request regarding Named Person schemes being trialled in council areas before the nationwide legislation is rolled out in August.**

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**1. If the scheme has been operating in the council area, how many children's parents have indicated they do not wish to deal with a Named Person?**

We do not routinely collate this information. Information of this nature is not centrally held but by each school. The person carrying out the role of named person in Education is the Head Teacher in a primary school or Guidance Teacher in secondary school. It would be normal practice for them to contact parents if they had a concern about a child's wellbeing. If the parents do not wish to engage then this would be recorded in that child's file only so that the Head Teacher/Guidance Teacher are aware for future.

To collate this data from across all schools would be a significantly time consuming task which would be in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). To explain, it would involve an ACC Officer visiting each school in Aberdeen in order to establish if and where information relating to a parents concerns are recorded. As you can appreciate, this task would vastly exceed the prescribed sum as outlined in the Freedom of Information (Fees for Required Disclosure) (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

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.

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**2. How many children are currently covered by a Named Person?**

The Named Person Service was implemented within Aberdeen City in 2012 prior to the proposed introduction of the statutory Named Person Scheme in August 2016. The service is delivered by Aberdeen City Council and the National Health Service Grampian (NHS Grampian) working in partnership. The service is currently offered to all children from birth until they leave education.

Getting it Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) is being embedded into practice within Aberdeen. This means that as elsewhere in Scotland, every child, from pre-birth until their sixteenth birthday or

until they leave school, has an identified named person. The named person is allocated according to age, namely; pre-birth until the tenth day following birth, a midwife; from eleven days old until the first day in primary one, a health visitor; and from day one in primary school until leaving school a member of the school staff. In primary school this is usually the head or deputy head teacher, whilst within an academy it is usually a member of the guidance, support, or senior management team.

According to school census information, 82,866 children are covered by the above scheme.

**3. a) Are the names of parents who do not wish to deal with a Named Person, and the names of those contacted by a Named Person who refuse to engage, logged?**

**b) Who are these names made available to, and why are they kept?**

Information of this nature is not centrally held but by each school. The person carrying out the role of named person in Education is the Head Teacher in a primary school or Guidance Teacher in secondary school. It would be normal practice for them to contact parents if they had a concern about a child's wellbeing. If the parents do not wish to engage then this would be recorded in that child's file only so that the Head Teacher/Guidance Teacher are aware for future.

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**4. What measures are taken if parents either do not wish to deal with a Named Person or are contacted by one and do not wish to engage?**

The role of a Named Person is to offer advice and guidance if requested by children, young people and families. However, if the matter was a child protection issue, existing child protection processes would be followed.

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**5. a) How many children's parents so far have been contacted by a Named Person over concerns about their child(ren)?**

**b) And how many have refused to engage with the Named Person?**

Information of this nature is not centrally held. The person carrying out the role of named person in Education is the Head Teacher in a primary school or Guidance Teacher in secondary school. It would be normal practice for them to contact parents if they had a concern about a child's wellbeing. If the parents do not wish to engage then this would be recorded but we do not routinely gather data on this.

To collate this data from across all schools would be a significantly time consuming task which would be in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). To explain, it would involve an ACC Officer visiting each school in Aberdeen in order to establish if and where information relating to a parents concerns are recorded. As you can appreciate, this task would vastly exceed the prescribed sum as outlined in the Freedom of Information (Fees for Required Disclosure) (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

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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.

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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