

Freedom of Information – Response – 26727

exploring the longitudinal impact of the denial of recourse to public funds on child health and development. The project aims to analyse the various forms of assistance and support offered nationwide by local authority Children's Services departments to families with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) restrictions under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. To assist in that goal, Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please could you provide the following information:

- a). The number of families presenting in the period November 2024-November 2025 as in need because denied recourse to public funds, and who have been found ineligible for support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 because, following a Human Rights Assessment, it has been determined that they may safely return to their imputed countries of origin.*
- b). The number of families in the period November 2024-November 2025 who were previously provided with accommodation and/or financial support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 on the basis of their denial of recourse to public funds, but have since had such support withdrawn, following a Human Rights Assessment determining that they may safely return to their imputed countries of origin.*
- c). The number of families accommodated and/or provided with financial support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 on the basis of their NRPF status, who have subsequently requested assistance applying to the Home Office Voluntary Returns Service in the period November 2024-November 2025.*
- d). The number of families accommodated and/or provided with financial support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 on the basis of their NRPF status, whose member(s) have subsequently regularised their immigration status, gaining recourse to public funds, in the period November 2024-November 2025.*
- e). The number of families accommodated and/or provided with financial support on the basis of their NRPF status under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who have been referred by local authority staff to the Independent Family Returns Panel in the period November 2024-November 2025.*

Please see the information below:

- a – 0 families
- b – 0 families
- c – 0 families
- d – <5 families (*data suppressed to avoid identification of individuals – please see further notes below*).
- e – 0 families

Data suppression - notes

While there is a general obligation under the FOIA to release information held by public authorities, there are exemptions to protect individuals' privacy and ensure compliance with data protection laws. The FOIA does not override data protection legislation if releasing information could lead to the identification of an individual directly or indirectly, thereby breaching their privacy rights.