60/14

REQUEST

I am writing to you with a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I would be grateful if you could answer the following questions:

- Please provide the data for the previous two years (ending 31st December 2013) broken down by month.

1. How many households with children (aged 0-16) have come to your council for assistance because they are homeless?

2. How many of those households with children (ages 0-16) were found to be intentionally homeless?

3. a) How many intentionally homeless households with children (ages 0-16) were housed in bed and breakfasts (this means the whole household including the children)?
   b) How many weeks were they housed in bed and breakfast accommodation for?

4. How many children (aged 0-16) of families deemed intentionally homeless have been referred to children's services?

5. a) How many children (aged 0-16) of families deemed to be intentionally homeless have been housed without their parents/carers? (Section 20 of the Children Act 1989 states Local Authorities are required by law to provide accommodation for children who require it). *I am looking for the number of cases where children have been separated from their children/carers as a result of homelessness only – cases where there are no other child protection issues.*
   b) How many of these children have been placed into the care system?

c) How many were placed into informal arrangements with other relatives?

RESPONSE

I refer to your FOI dated 31 January 2014, to respond as follows:

1. January-December 2012 – 612
   January-December 2013 – 660

2. January-December 2012 – 5
   January-December 2013 – 11

3a. January-December 2012 – 1

January-December 2013 - 0

3b. January-December 2012 – 5 weeks

January-December 2013 – 0 weeks

4. January-December 2012 – 0
   January-December 2013 – 2

5. Unknown. Essex Social Care should hold this data.