

East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2016/1242(11095)

In the first instance, it may help to explain that Freedom of Information legislation only applies to information which is held or recorded by a public authority. It does not apply to views, opinions, intentions or questions which simply require a yes/no answer. In view of this, some of the questions asked are not valid for the purposes of this legislation as they are not requests for specific recorded information that East Lothian Council (ELC) may or may not hold.

In order to assist you, however, colleagues have tried to address the questions posed to the best of their knowledge. For future reference, a link to the "Tips for Requesters" page of the Scottish Information Commissioner's website has been provided which you may find useful:
<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Tipsforrequesters.aspx>

1. With which of your neighbouring local authorities do you have reciprocal agreements to fund children attending nursery out of their home area?

ELC has reciprocal agreements with all of its neighbouring authorities.

2. Do you fund all eligible children attending nursery in your area whose home address is in a neighbouring council area?

Yes

3. Do you pay parents of children at partnership nurseries in advance or in arrears?

ELC pays the partnership nursery at the beginning of each term on receipt of their paperwork. Each nursery passes this on to parents.

4. What is the total occupancy rate of 3-5 year olds for your council's nurseries?

Current occupancy rate is 85.6% which is predicted to rise to 92.2% after Easter.

5. What percentage of children in your council's nurseries come from households where both households are working?

ELC does not hold this information. In view of this, under Section 17(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I must formally advise you that ELC has been unable to comply with this part of your request as the information you require is not held.

East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2016/1242(11095)

6. What information do you collect about the social and economic profile of children in your council's nurseries?

ELC collects the pupil's postcode when they apply to enrol at a nursery. This postcode is then used to match addresses with their corresponding Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) decile, quintile and vigintile.

7. What data do you hold on the number of mothers in your council's area who return to work when their child starts nursery?

ELC does not hold this information. In view of this, under Section 17(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I must formally advise you that ELC has been unable to comply with this part of your request as the information you require is not held.