

Reply to Second Data Protection Act, Subject Access Requests, 9/10/2015

Social worker gone, all information lost, case reallocated to new social worker. You just couldn't make it up.

Economy, Communities and Corporate

Geoff Hughes

Private and Confidential

Mr J McGeown
1 Newton Cottage
Weobley
Herefordshire
HR4 8QX

Your Ref:

Our Ref: SAR0209

Please ask for: Anthony Sawyer

Direct Line / Extension: 01432 260510

Fax:

E-mail: Accesstoinformation

@herefordshire.gov.uk

7th October 2015

Dear Mr McGeown,

Thank you again for your subject access request dated 31st August 2015. I have spent some time checking for the information that you have requested and can now respond with my findings.

Mr. Sarup Reehal has left Herefordshire Council and the social care department. Mr. Reehal's manager has searched for any records left by Mr. Reehal in the form of written notes, and has contacted Mr. Reehal to see if any information is still held by him. The results of these searches is that no further information has been found in relation to some of the information that you have requested.

To go through the specific information that you have requested, the core assessment has not been carried out. You are correct that such assessments must be carried out in a timely fashion and completed within a specified time period. This has not been done, and social care apologise for this.

The minutes of the multi-agency meeting of 16/06/2015 (the Review Strategy Meeting) are withheld under Section 30 of the Data Protection Act 1998 as child protection concerns were discussed and disclosure of this information would undermine the principles of professionals having space to consider safeguarding issues. I am however able to summarise the meeting as follows:

- previous history of the case was recounted;
- the protective factors and risk factors were analysed,
- further information would need to be gathered and the core assessment completed.

I have enclosed a copy of the case note for Mr. Reehal's home visit on 22/06/2015.

There are no case notes for the visit to St. Mary's Primary School on 08/07/2015, the home visit on the same day, the home visit on 15/07/2015, the visit to St. Mary's Primary School on the same day, or the visit to Dilwyn Playgroup on 17/07/2015. It would appear that they have not been recorded.

I have asked social care how this situation can be remedied. Social care are reallocating your case this week to a new social worker, and the social worker will be in touch with you next week. This social worker will be briefed about the difficulties that you and your family have experienced, and they will be asked to ensure that you are provided with better communication of information.

Please let me know if you require any further information or are dissatisfied with the handling of your request.

To
Jo Davidson
Director
Herefordshire Children's
Wellbeing Directorate
New Bath St Offices
Bath Street
Hereford
HR1 2GY

**Jim, Megan, Freya &
Pippa McGeown**
1 Newton Cottages,
Nr Weobley,
Herefordshire,
HR4 8QX,
Tel 01544 318263

12th October 2015

Dear Jo Davidson

Received 9th October 2015, SAR response from
Information Governance Officer, Copy Attached.

We were dismayed to discover the departure of Sarup Reehal Ltd having failed to complete the commitment to us of a core assessment and having lost all information. Thus denying us opportunity to challenge your case and defend our good name.

We have been advised by our solicitor that we should cooperate with the social worker that you have reallocated this work to. This is to enable you to state your case against us or vindicate us by it's closure.

We have the expectation that you will complete this within 21 days. Please direct your new social worker to contact us, as above details, to proceed with this.

Confirmation of receipt and action upon this letter would be very much appreciated.

Yours Sincerely
Jim McGeown