



Our ref: 82037968
11 March 2026



I can confirm that the information requested is held by Birmingham Children's Trust. I have detailed below the information that is being released to you.

I am conducting a comparative analysis of how different local authorities interpret and apply nonstatutory child safety plans within safeguarding practice.

Please provide the following information:

- 1) Does your local authority consider a nonstatutory child safety plan (i.e., a voluntary safety plan that is not part of a Child Protection Plan or court order) to be capable of being 'breached'?**
- 2) If so, please provide your definition of what constitutes a 'breach' of a nonstatutory safety plan.**
- 3) If not, please explain how your authority describes situations where a family does not follow the expectations set out in a voluntary safety plan.**
- 4) Please provide any internal policies, guidance, training materials, or practice standards that address:**
 - * the status of nonstatutory safety plans**
 - * expectations of parental compliance**
 - * the terminology used to describe noncompliance**
 - * escalation pathways linked to safety plans**
- 5) Please confirm whether your authority distinguishes between:**
 - * a voluntary safety plan**
 - * a Child in Need plan**
 - * a Child Protection Plan**
 - * a court directed agreement**
- 6) If so, please provide the definitions used.**

The questions above will be answered together.

Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, the Trust's obligations extend only to the disclosure of recorded information it holds. FOIA does not require a public authority to formulate or provide a position statement, summary of approach, or explanation of practice where this has not been documented. While a request may seek to understand how the Trust approaches a particular issue, FOIA does not impose a duty to articulate or describe that approach unless it is already set out in recorded form, such as a policy, procedure, or guidance document.

The Trust does not hold a recorded position or policy that addresses whether a non-statutory child safety plan is capable of being 'breached'. Accordingly, no information is held for the purposes of FOIA in respect of a formal position on this issue. However, we can advise by way of general context that non-statutory child safety plans are voluntary in nature, and responses to concerns about a child's safety are governed by professional judgement and assessment of risk. Each child and family's circumstances are considered on a case-by-case basis, and any action taken is informed by the individual facts of the situation rather than by reference to a predetermined or documented position.

Please quote the reference number **82037968** in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with our response to your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days from the date this authority issued its initial response. Please outline which part of the response you are not happy with setting out your reasons. This request should be addressed to:

Corporate Information Governance Team
PO Box 16366
Birmingham
B2 2YY
Email: infogovernance@birmingham.gov.uk

If you are still dissatisfied with the Birmingham Children's Trust's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office

Website: www.ico.org.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Birmingham Children's Trust
PO Box 17363
Birmingham
B2 2DW

Web: www.birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk

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Disclosure Officer

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