



**Information Governance Team**

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI719482449**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Letters of validations for child care.

You have requested the following information:

**Previously I've been asked to provide a letter from my child's mother to validate the amount of days I have my children, because you don't believe men.**

**Clarification: When accessing any benefits for children.**

**1. Please give me the total numbers for how many times mothers have had to provide letters from fathers validating their child care amount.**

**I'd like clear figures on how often men are asked to provide mothers validation vs women that are asked to provide fathers validation.**

This information is not held and we are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act.

There would be no circumstances where our Revenues and Benefits service would ask that question of anybody. If a parent applied for Housing Benefit / Council Tax Support and declared they had Childcare costs, we would just ask for evidence of the costs paid by the claimant it would not matter about the number of days the child was resident.

To assist, you may direct your question to the Department for Work and Pensions - this may be asked when deciding which parent is eligible to have Child Benefit paid to them (this would be to who the child "normally" resides with), or possibly when they are working out how many hours free childcare the parent is eligible for so this should be referred to them.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request email: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**