From:

Sent: 20 January 2020 16:57

To: SARguidance

Subject: Right of access draft guidance

External: This email originated outside the ICO.

Dear Sir or Madam,

In the main I think the document is good. It would nice to see some further advice on consent from third parties mainly children. At present we check the age of the child and if they have a current social worker we ensure any SAR made in respect of their data is discussed with them, made clear and their consent sought if the worker is confident they are mentally mature enough to understand the request. However, if there is no current worker or they have never been known to social care how can we ensure the child's views are taken into consideration.

We do currently notify the requester that in order to proceed with their request we will need to seek consent of the child (over 12 as a guide).

However, this is not a straight forward process -

we cannot ask/insist on ID as we would for an adult as they might not have any ID, (if an adult has no photo ID we would seek bank statements or utility bills etc.) a child wold not have this either, we cannot call them in for a meeting as no doubt a parent/requester would come with them or they would not come at all,

we cannot visit them, for the same reasons as above,

when we write to them we have no way of knowing whether they actually see the letter themselves or have it explained to them,

we have no way of verifying their signature so it could have been falsified,

Do you have any suggestions on how this can be resolved – if something old be added to this document that would be useful, thanks.

Kind regards

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