

Dr Minh Alexander

*By email: minhalexander@aol.com*

Your ref:

Our ref: FOIA 2017/18

11 January 2018

Dear Dr Alexander,

## **Information Request**

We write in response to your request for information, made by email dated 10 December 2017.

You have asked to receive the following information:

**Please advise what data the CCRC collects on Race and Gender, and what central records are kept of such information, including relevant fields on central databases.**

**If the data is collected and retrievable within the cost limits, please advise for the years**

**2013/14**

**2014/15**

**2015/16**

**2016/17**

**2017/18 year to date**

**1. How many applications the CCRC has received?**

**The ethnicity and gender breakdown of the cases in question**

**2. How many cases the CCRC referred to appeal courts?**

**The ethnicity and gender breakdown of the cases in question**

**3. The outcomes of cases of cases referred to appeal courts and the ethnicity and gender breakdown of the cases in question**

4. Please disclose copies of any Equality reviews / analyses that CCRC has undertaken with respect to its services

5. Details of any positive action that CCRC has undertaken to

- a) make its services more accessible to protected groups
- b) improve the experience of and outcomes for protected groups who use its services”

**In response:**

Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and we can provide the following answers to your questions in turn:

**Data collected by the CCRC on Race and Gender of applicants**

Equalities information is collected by means of an equalities monitoring form attached to CCRC application forms. The completion of this equalities monitor form is voluntary, but where such information is supplied, it is then recorded on our case database, together with all other information supplied about the applicant and details of their conviction etc. A copy of the CCRC's current application form, containing the equalities monitor form is available on our website ([www.ccrcc.gov.uk](http://www.ccrcc.gov.uk)) for viewing: <https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/ccrc-prod-storage-1jdn5d1f6iq1l/uploads/2017/02/CCRC-Application-Form.pdf>

**what central records are kept of such information, including relevant fields on central databases**

Equalities information is recorded on the CCRC's case database in the same format, but once it is recorded, this information cannot be viewed by those dealing with cases. The recording of said information does however allow for statistical information about different ethnic groups to be collated for statistical purposes. [Please note that the CCRC has recently changed its case database and coinciding with this, the way how different ethnicities are grouped together when running reports has been slightly amended. You may notice this difference when comparing the figures provided in this letter with the figures contained in the attached internal reports.]

**Number of applications received and breakdown by ethnicity and gender for the years 2013/14 – 2017/18 (year to date)**

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 ytd
<i>Ethnicity</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Asian or Asian British	103	113	118	109	93
Black African, Black	194	219	228	205	139

Caribbean or Black British					
Irish	27	24	18	12	2
Mixed	60	44	48	58	53
White	739	856	738	685	524
Other	119	115	129	117	54
Not known	227	233	200	212	231
<b>Total Applications</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>1,604</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>1,398</b>	<b>1,096</b>

	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18 ytd</b>
<i>Gender</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Male	1,292	1,421	1,323	1,206	899
Female	151	144	115	133	96
Not known	26	39	41	59	101
<b>Total Applications</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>1,604</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>1,398</b>	<b>1,096</b>

#### Number of cases referred for the years 2013/14 – 2017/18 (year to date)

	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18 ytd</b>
<b>Total Cases referred</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>

#### The outcomes of cases referred to appeal courts

	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18 ytd</b>
<i>Appeal Outcome</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Quashed	18	24	15	5	2
Upheld	13	11	16	4	-
Abandoned	-	1	1	-	-
Not yet heard	0	0	1	3	3

#### Breakdown by ethnicity and gender for referred cases

It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the ethnicity and gender of the applicants whose case have been referred, due to the comparatively very small number of referrals made in each business year. Information about cases that are referred is contained in both the CCRC's press release made at the time of referral, as well as on the CCRC's website that provides an overview over

various case referred and the outcome of the resulting appeal hearing. The information available may provide an applicant's name, but not any other personal information, including their ethnic background. Providing a break down of ethnicity information in relation to the number of referrals made in a given year may allow an individual to be linked to a specific ethnicity or gender. In order to protect such personal information from being made openly available, the CCRC will not provide a breakdown of ethnic or gender information in respect of cases referred for an appeal.

### **Copies of any equality reviews / analyses that the CCRC has undertaken with respect to its services**

A number of reports produced for the CCRC's internal Equality and Diversity Group are attached. They cover the years 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17. As the business year 2017/18 is still ongoing, an annual report for the current year is not yet available, but you will find attached two quarterly applicant statistics reports covering the first two quarters of this year.

### **Details of positive action that CCRC has undertaken to**

- a) make its services more accessible for protected groups**
- b) improve the experience of an outcomes of protected groups who use its services**

The CCRC carries out a substantial amount of outreach work with various organisations that specialise in protected groups. This mainly involves external meetings and external presentations, so there is not much written information that we can provide to you. Some useful information on how we try to be more accessible to protected groups, may be gained from the attached executive summary on the outcome of the young people's focus group that was held at the CCRC. You may also find our Youtube video, 'Not the end of the road', which was specifically designed to raise awareness amongst young people. The video can be accessed on our website: <https://ccrc.gov.uk/home/not-the-end-of-the-road-a-short-film-by-the-ccrc/>

There is also a range of Easy Read literature specifically designed for people with learning disabilities, including the application form that you will be able to access on our website. A series of other specific 'easy read' publications are attached for your information (Easy Read 'How to apply' leaflet / Easy Read Letter / Feedback Form / Easy Read CCRC Re-application form / Easy Read Complaint form)

In addition, the CCRC organises regular internal training sessions for staff in relation to both various casework issues as well as issues possibly relevant to some applicants. Most recently, for example, training was provided by an external trainer on Transgender Awareness (also a protected characteristic) and, in a separate session, on Autism.

We hope that the information provided is of some interest.

Yours sincerely,



**Information Team**  
**CCRC**

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request, in the first instance you may approach the Commission's Data Protection Officer in writing at Criminal Cases Review Commission, 5 St Philip's Place, Birmingham, B3 2PW. Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF, [enquiries@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ico.gsi.gov.uk)