

EXECUTIVE, RESOURCES & CONTRACTS

POLICY DEVELOPMENT & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED FOR WRITTEN REPLY
BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR RESOURCES, COMMISSIONING AND
CONTRACTS MANAGEMENT AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE,
RESOURCES AND CONTRACTS PDS COMMITTEE**

**1. From Councillor Alisa Igoe to the Portfolio Holder for Resources,
Commissioning and Contracts Management**

With regard to Education Outcomes for Children in Bromley Schools 2022 (Item 9e on the CEF PDS Agenda – 14.03.23) which states that *“In 2022 54.4% of children eligible for free school meals in Bromley reached a Good Level of Development.”* (Paragraph 5.3, Page 189)

A drop from 59% in 2019 (last report: CEF20004), however, it was good to learn at Full Council that we continued to support 9,200 schoolchildren with free school meals during school holidays between October 2022 and February 2023, with 4 lots of £15 food vouchers. Could you please confirm I am correct these were Oct half term £30, Christmas £15 and February half term £15

Reply:

I can confirm that four lots of £15 food vouchers were issued via the Household Support Fund between October 2022 and February 2023. These comprised £30 for October half term, £15 for the Christmas break and £15 for February half term.

**2. From Mrs Susan Sulis, Secretary Community Care Protection Group to the
Chairman of the Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee**

The Information Commissioners advice, in respect of the FOI Act and Environmental Regulations Requests, is that, for a request to be valid, it must be in writing, but requesters do not need to mention the Act. Does Bromley Council accept this advice, when dealing with written requests for information?

Reply:

Bromley are aligned to the guidance from the ICO and the obligations of the act. Bromley will only accept written request via the webform, email or posted letter.

2. From Mrs Susan Sulis, Secretary Community Care Protection Group to the Chairman of the Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee

Who has responsibility for ensuring that correct practice is followed?

Reply:

FOI case management is devolved across the Council with departmental coordinators handling cases relevant to their area. The Head of Information Management along with member of the team set policy, standards, and procedural guidance as well as deliver training opportunities for FOI and EIR case management.