

Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council

Riverside House
Main Street
Rotherham
S60 1AE
Tel: (01709) 822700
E-mail: chris.read@rotherham.gov.uk
Email the Council for free @ your local library!

Our Ref:

CQ3/05122018

Dear Mr Smith

Further to the question that you were going to ask at the full council meeting but were unfortunately unable to attend, please find below a written response.

“Who gave the legal advice to the social worker who visited a convicted multi child rapist to advise him to go to court to apply for access to the child he sired by rape?”

As you are aware, the Council cannot comment on individual situations as Family Court matters are confidential and are heard in private.

When the Council issues care proceedings to safeguard a child, it is required by law to give notice of those proceedings to any person holding parental responsibility for that child and /or any person the council believes is a parent of any child who is a subject of those proceedings.

Parents with parental responsibility receive a full set of court papers and parents without parental responsibility are notified of the date of the court proceedings. Both parents are entitled to seek free legal advice to support them in family court matters.

A parent with parental responsibility by law will automatically become a party to care proceedings. It is for the Court – not social workers – to decide whether a parent without parental responsibility should become a party to the proceedings.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Chris Read
Leader, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council