

14 February 2024

## Case Reference IC-285137-C6R3

### Request

You asked us:

*"Has the ICO been asked to provide any input, advice, or opinion in relation to the government guidance on the treatment of gender-questioning young people in schools and colleges in England?"*

[https://consult.education.gov.uk/equalities-political-impartiality-anti-bullying-team/gender-questioning-children-proposed-guidance/supporting\\_documents/Gender%20Questioning%20Children%20%20nonstatutory%20guidance.pdf](https://consult.education.gov.uk/equalities-political-impartiality-anti-bullying-team/gender-questioning-children-proposed-guidance/supporting_documents/Gender%20Questioning%20Children%20%20nonstatutory%20guidance.pdf)

*Can the ICO provide copies of any response to the current consultation, or advice, opinion or guidance given to the government in this regard?"*

We received your request on 26 January 2024.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

### Our response

We do not hold any information in scope of your request.

The Department for Education ("DfE") has not specifically requested input, advice, or opinion from the ICO in relation to the 'Gender Questioning Children – Non-statutory guidance in schools and colleges in England.'

Please note that this is non-statutory guidance, so the DfE is not obliged to formally consult with the ICO.

However, we are considering whether to respond. The likelihood is that any response will be informal rather than through the consultation process.

## **Next steps**

You can ask us to review our response. Please let us know in writing if you want us to carry out a review. Please do so within 40 working days.

You can read a copy of our full review procedure [here](#).

If we perform a review but you are still dissatisfied, you can complain to the ICO as regulator of the FOIA. This complaint will be handled just like a complaint made to the ICO about any other public authority.

You can [raise a complaint through our website](#).

## **Your information**

Our [Privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us, and set out your rights. Our retention schedule can be found [here](#).

Yours sincerely



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