I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request:

**FOI66008**

There is a continuing debate in Parliament concerning the question of new powers for social workers to gain access to potential adult victims of abuse in situations where a third party is preventing that access and in some way compromising a person’s autonomy; in other words, their ability to exercise their will freely.

In this context will you please provide the following information if this is possible.

**Question:**

1. On how many occasions during the past 12 months have social work staff been denied access by a third party to a vulnerable adult when investigating concerns relating to adult abuse, and consequently were unable to gain entry?

**Response:** The Community Team for People with Learning Disabilities has been denied access by a third party on one occasion in the past 12 months.

**Question:**

2. In those situations, on how many occasions was it assessed that the failure to gain entry was due to the social work staff not fully utilising existing powers of entry?

**Response:** We do not hold this information.

If you are unhappy with the information we have provided in response to your request please write to:

Information Management Team Manager  
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead  
Town Hall, St Ives Road  
Maidenhead  
SL6 1RF

or send an e-mail to martin.tubbs@rbwm.gov.uk

We are proud to be one of the leading authorities in England for consistently responding to information requests within the 20 working days set down by statute. Information about our performance and summaries of requests received can be found on our website:

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/foi_information_requests.htm
We are keen to hear about your experience with the Information Management Team here at the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead and look forward to receiving any comments you have about the way your information request was processed.

Please send any feedback to the Information Management Team Manager either by e-mail martin.tubbs@rbwm.gov.uk or in writing to the address above.

Yours sincerely

Ben Savage
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