



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam.

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ07111**

Thank you for your request for information relating to victims of modern slavery/human trafficking.

You have requested the following information:

1. The number of individuals under the age of 18 who are potential victims of modern slavery/human trafficking and have been interviewed by a Joint Investigation Team comprised of both Children's Social Care/Children's Social Services department and the local police force from April 2018 till present?

Four.

2. Please detail if the children's services department and the local police force in your area are co-located? The term co-location to mean not only physically located together, but also the sharing of case management systems and processes.

There is a police team located within the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, so are physically located. However, case management systems are not shared, although the police have limited read only access to Children's Services systems and can only see whether a case is open or closed. Children's Services have no access to Police systems.

3. Please provide a copy of any policy, guidance, training and/or instruction document on the use of joint interviewing for social workers and police officers in your Local Authority area.

Children's Services follows the statutory guidance under Working Together to Safeguard and Protect Children 2018. This guidance provides clear direction on the arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and makes provision for joint investigations where a criminal offence is being investigated.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779401/Working_Together_to_Safeguard-Children.pdf

Coventry City Council policies and procedures reflect the national practice guidance, and also the Coventry Safeguarding Childrens Partnership has Multi Agency processes and procedures that promote effective arrangement for safeguarding and protecting children.

Children's Services in Coventry have commissioned bespoke learning and development to support the learning, skills and professional development for Social Workers that' has focussed on child protection and joint investigations.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance