



Information Governance Team

Postal Address:
Coventry City Council
PO Box 15
Council House
Coventry
CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

E-mail: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Phone: 024 7697 5408

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI383450154

Thank you for your request for information relating to Deaths and Hospital Admissions for Malnourishment of Children Known to Social Services.

You have requested the following information:

1. How many children, who were known to your social services department, died between 1st January 2017 – 30th November 2021? (Including those dates)

a) Please specify how many of those occurred in each year - 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021.

We can confirm that this information is accessible to you via the Government website, please use the following link:-

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/characteristics-of-children-in-need/2021#dataDownloads-1>

We therefore do not have to provide the information as per Section 21 of the FOIA.

b) Please provide the ages of the children, and the cause of death.

We are unable to provide this information as the Council considers that this information meets the definition for personal data set out in Section 3(2) and 3(3) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) as:

(2) personal data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual (subject to subsection (14)(c))”

(3) “Identifiable living individual” means a living individual who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to –

*(a) an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data or an online identifier, or
(b) one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of the individual.”*

The Council thus considers that the requested information is caught by the exemption to disclosure contained in Section 40 (2) of the FOI Act and the related first condition of Section 40 (3).

2) How many children, who were known to your social services department, were admitted to hospital with malnourishment between 1st January 2017 30th November 2021? (Including those dates)

a) Please specify how many of those occurred in each year - 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021.

b) Please provide the ages of the children.

In response to Questions 2a and 2b, we hold the information which you have asked for, but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

This information is not held in a reportable format and will be recorded within individual case records. To collate the information to answer your request an officer will need to manually trawl through every case record. Due to the high volume of records held, this will exceed 18 hours work and therefore this part of your request has been refused.

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 icocasework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

