



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI399303190

Thank you for your request for information relating to Temporary agency staff in children's services.

You have requested the following information:

1. How many children's social workers does the council need in total to run its children's service department?

As at 1st March 2022, the total number of social worker, advanced social worker and newly qualified social worker posts in Coventry children's services is 260.

Please note, that this figure is for social worker posts only, and does not include all posts which require a social work qualification. Therefore this figure does not include senior practitioners, team managers, strategic and operational leads, IROs, restorative practice leads and practice educators which also require social work qualifications

2. How many of those roles have remained vacant for each of the last five calendar years (2017-2021)?

We capture the number of agency staff in children's services but do not track the vacancy of individual post numbers over time. Information pertaining to social work vacancies is included in the DfE statutory return which is published annually. Please see the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-childrens-social-care-workforce>

3. How many temporary agency children's social workers were recruited over the same period to fill those vacancies?

We do not track the vacancy of individual post numbers but can confirm the number of agency social workers in children's services over the past 5 years below

March 2017: 46

March 2018: 43

March 2019: 39

March 2020: 39

March 2021: 72

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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

Information Governance