



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI418666596

Thank you for your request for information relating to Step Down Foster Care.

You have requested the following information:

1. How does the Local Authority commission or contract for the provision of foster care? Please provide detail of the structure of that facility those arrangements.

Coventry seeks to place children with internal carers. In the event this is not possible, the child's referral will be sent to the providers who are part of the West Midlands Regional Fostering Framework if there is not no availability or suitable carers the referral will be sent to spot providers.

2. Do these arrangements include a facility designed for 'step down from residential care' (for these purposes defined as a specialist foster placement offered to transition children and young people from residential care)?

No.

Please provide a description such as might be provided to a social worker placing a child.

This question is not a valid request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as it is asking for a possible outcome, and not for recorded information held by the Council.

a. What is/are the contracted price(s) of such arrangements as at 1/4/2021?

b. How many children/ young people were placed through these arrangements in each of

the financial year 2020 and 2021?

c. What was the average weekly placement price for those children placed in each year?

d. How many placement weeks were delivered in each year to those placed in year?

e. Please provide tender documentation or similar that describes the facility.

Not applicable.

3. Has the Authority used other arrangements that provide 'step down from residential care' for children and young people?

Coventry has previously placed children within residential provision which focuses on preparing children to step down to fostering. The provider seeks to recruit a foster carer for the child to step down to.

Please list and provide descriptive material – such as is provided to social worker placing children for each.

This is not within the remit of an FOI request.

a. What is/are the contracted or published price(s) of such arrangements as at 1/4/2021?

Currently Coventry do not have any children placed within the above provision.

b. How many children/ young people were placed through these arrangements in each of the financial year 2020 and 2021?

None.

c. What was the average weekly placement price for those children placed in each year?

d. How many placement weeks were delivered in each year to those placed in year?

e. Please provide tender documentation or similar that describes the facility.

For Questions 3c to 3e, these are not applicable.

4. For each of the financial years 2019, 2020 and 2021.

a. The average weekly price paid for a foster placement (all types).

2019/20: £803.43

2020/21: £831.13

2021/22: £850.54

b. The total number of weeks of foster care purchased.

2019/20: 8,306

2020/21: 8,167

2021/22: 8,377

c. The average price of a Children's Homes placement.

2019/20: £4,297.40

2020/21: £4,655.89

2021/22: £4,879.46

d. The total number of weeks purchased.

2019/20: 2,521

2020/21: 3,003

2022/22: 3,476

5. Please provide contact details of the person with the responsibility for the commissioning of Specialist Foster Care Placements.

Penny Kay, Commissioning Team Manager.

Email: Penny.Kay@coventry.gov.uk

Stephanie Verge, Operational Support Team Leader.

Email: Stephanie.verge@coventry.gov.uk

6. Please provide contact details of the person with the operational responsibility for ensuring there is a Children in Care placement sufficiency.

Bridget Atkins, Operational Lead Commissioning & Partnerships.

Email: Bridget.atkins@coventry.gov.uk

Penny Kay, Commissioning Team Manager.

Email: Penny.Kay@coventry.gov.uk

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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