



**Information Governance Team**

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20 July 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI526238916**

Thank you for your request for information relating to LADO referrals regarding children's homes.

You have requested the following information:

**Please provide me with the following information under the Freedom of Information Act.**

**Statutory guidance places a responsibility on organisations to contact the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) within one working day where it is alleged that a member of staff or volunteer who works with children has:**

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child or, may have harmed a child;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against a child or related to a child;
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates that they may pose a risk of harm to children;
- behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

**1. Please provide a list of all children's homes within your local authority area, including the operator.**

Following careful consideration, the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing

the Council website, please use the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childrens-social-care-data-in-england-2023>

To assist, please use the document titled 'Children's social care in England 2023 underlying data' and filter the data by local authority under the 'Provider level' tab.

**2. Please provide the number of referrals to the LADO made in the local authority in the calendar year 2022.**

January: 20

February: 18

March: 20

April: 12

May: 25

June: 26

July: 20

August: 16

September: 20

October: 33

November: 22

December: 20

Total: 252

**3. Please provide the number of referrals to the LADO made in relation to each children's home in the year 2022.**

**Clarification: For Question 3, please include individuals who work in those homes AND concerns about the homes themselves.**

We are unable to provide the requested information to the number of referrals made to each children's home due to the low numbers involved. Disclosure may lead to the identification of individuals involved. This has been done 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).

However, to assist, we can confirm that there were 21 referrals across all homes, for the year.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR 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](mailto: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](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

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

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**