



Information Governance Team

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24 September 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI641692083

Thank you for your request for information relating to Looked after children data.

You have requested the following information:

1. Please could you supply the name, job title, email address and telephone number of the commissioner with responsibility for Looked After Children and/or placements in children's care homes.

For questions 2 through 6, please supply the following information for the financial years 2020/21 to 2023/24, and where possible, the budget or most up to date snapshot available for 2024/25.

2. Please provide the total number of children looked after by the local authority (please include all placements at any point throughout the financial year).

3. Please provide the local authority's total expenditure on placements for looked after children in regulated children's homes (this is the total spend on all looked after children and should exclude expenses related to travel, social work visits etc).

4. Of the total number of children looked after by the local authority (q.2) please provide the number of placements in children's homes (not including unregulated children's homes, secure units or hostels)

5. Of the total number of children looked after by the local authority in regulated children's

homes (q.4) please provide the number placed inside the local authority boundary (in area) and the number placed outside the local authority boundary (out of area). Please exclude unregulated children's homes.

6. Of the number of children looked after by the local authority in regulated children's homes, please provide the number of children looked after by the local authority in:

- In placements inside the local authority boundary, in 'own provision' (operated by the local authority)
- In placements outside the local authority boundary, in 'own provision' (operated by the local authority)
- In placements inside the local authority boundary, in 'private provision' (operated by the independent sector)
- In placements outside the local authority boundary, in 'private provision' (operated by the independent sector)

7. For the current financial year (or as recent as possible, provide date), please provide the highest, average (mean), and lowest weekly fee paid for LAC in a regulated children's home (please include all placements in regulated children's homes, including those in and outside of the local authority boundary, as well as those operated by the local authority, the independent sector, and others).

Please see the attached document with all the responses.

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

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

Looked after children data; FOI641692083

Title: Looked after children data

Request details:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information regarding Looked After Children (also referred to as LAC, children in care, or children looked after by a local authority)

Please kindly include responses on the attached spreadsheet.

1. Please could you supply the name, job title, email address and telephone number of the commissioner with responsibility for Looked After Children and/or placements in children's care homes.

Bridget Atkins - Operational Lead Commissioning and Partnerships
Coventry City Council
Telephone (024) 7697 7196

For questions 2 through 6, please supply the following information for the financial years 2020/21 to 2023/24, and where possible, the budget or most up to date snapshot available for 2024/25.

2. Please provide the total number of children looked after by the local authority (please include all placements at any point throughout the financial year).

| Year | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 (up to 29/08) |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| All children looked after during the year ending 31 March excluding those only looked after under a series of short term placements (LAB1.01) | 999 | 996 | 996 | 926 | 797 |

3. Please provide the local authority's total expenditure on placements for looked after children in regulated children's homes (this is the total spend on all looked after children and should exclude expenses related to travel, social work visits etc).

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 (s251 returns) and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/site-search/results/?q=section+251>

4. Of the total number of children looked after by the local authority (q.2) please provide the number of placements in children's homes (not including unregulated children's homes, secure units or hostels)

| Year | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 (up to 29/08) |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| All placements in children’s homes (K2) of all children looked after during the year ending 31 March. | 166 | 161 | 128 | 126 | 95 |

Notes: Some children may have had more than one placement in a children’s home during the year.

5. Of the total number of children looked after by the local authority in regulated children's homes (q.4) please provide the number placed inside the local authority boundary (in area) and the number placed outside the local authority boundary (out of area). Please exclude unregulated children's homes.

| Year | 2020-21 | | 2021-22 | | 2022-23 | | 2023-24 | | 2024-25 (up to 29/08) | |
|---|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| Location | In | Out | In | Out | In | Out | In | Out | In | Out |
| All placements in children’s homes (K2) of all children looked after during the year ending 31 March. | 45 | 121 | 43 | 118 | 37 | 91 | 41 | 85 | 30 | 65 |

Notes: Some children may have had more than one placement in a children’s home during the year. Private includes accommodation run by private and voluntary organisations.

6. Of the number of children looked after by the local authority in regulated children's homes, please provide the number of children looked after by the local authority in:

- In placements inside the local authority boundary, in 'own provision' (operated by the local authority)
- In placements outside the local authority boundary, in 'own provision' (operated by the local authority)
- In placements inside the local authority boundary, in 'private provision' (operated by the independent sector)
- In placements outside the local authority boundary, in 'private provision' (operated by the independent sector)

| Year | 2020-21 | | | | 2021-22 | | | | 2022-23 | | | | 2023-24 | | | | 2024-25 (up to 29/08) | | | |
|---|---------|---------|-----|---------|---------|---------|-----|---------|---------|---------|-----|---------|---------|---------|-----|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----|---------|
| Location | In | | Out | | In | | Out | | In | | Out | | In | | Out | | In | | Out | |
| Provision | Own | Private | Own | Private | Own | Private | Own | Private | Own | Private | Own | Private | Own | Private | Own | Private | Own | Private | Own | Private |
| All placements in children's homes (K2) of all children looked after during the year ending 31 March. | 23 | 22 | 0 | 121 | 20 | 23 | 0 | 118 | 18 | 19 | 0 | 91 | 23 | 18 | 0 | 85 | 14 | 16 | 0 | 65 |

Notes: Some children may have had more than one placement in a children's home during the year.

7. For the current financial year (or as recent as possible, provide date), please provide the highest, average (mean), and lowest weekly fee paid for LAC in a regulated children's home (please include all placements in regulated children's homes, including those in and outside of the local authority boundary, as well as those operated by the local authority, the independent sector, and others).

Date range – 01/04/2024 – 11/09/2024

Highest – £32,500

Average (mean) – £5,490.17

Lowest - £2,525