

Information Governance Team

Postal Address: Coventry City Council PO Box 7097 Coventry CV6 9SL

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: FOI651119421

Thank you for your request for information relating to CCE & CSE data.

You have requested the following information:

As a freedom of information request, please provide, from 2015-2024:

1. For each year in the period, how many people have been considered to be at risk of 'child sex exploitation - CSE' and 'Child Criminal Exploitation - CCE' – please provide an age breakdown if available. If providing a breakdown by age for each year would risk identifying individuals, then please instead provide an age breakdown for the entire period.

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 Government website. Children at risk of child sex exploitation or child criminal exploitation as identified during a social care child and family assessment is published for all local authorities. Please use the following link:

https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/children-in-need To assist further, please refer to dataset: c3 factors identified at end of assessment 2018 to 2024

It should be noted that the generation of an age breakdown would require manual assessment of

individual cases which exceeds the time available for compiling an FOI response.

We also draw your attention to an alternative data source – the West Midlands Police National Referral Mechanism (NRM) Dashboard, which also reports upon child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation. It should be noted that children identified in social care as having a risk of child sexual exploitation or child criminal exploitation are not necessarily referred to via the NRM.

Dashboard link: WMP NRM | Exploitation and Missing Dashboard https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/92397132e509473883e1977d1db90a32/page/WMP-NRM/

If a further breakdown of information is required from the West Midlands Police, a request can be made directly to them - see https://foi.west-midlands.police.uk/

2. For each year in the period, how many people have been considered to be involved in 'child sex exploitation - CSE' and 'Child Criminal Exploitation - CCE'— please provide an age breakdown if available. If providing a breakdown by age for each year would risk identifying individuals, then please instead provide an age breakdown for the entire period.

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.

Information on whether a child is involved in child sex exploitation / child criminal exploitation is not held in a reportable format in the recording system. An officer would need to manually interrogate individual cases which will exceed 18 hours. This part of your request has been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

3. For each year in the period, how many calls were recorded to the MASH helpline

Statistics are available for MASH calls recorded spanning November 2016 – September 2024. The table below reports the number of calls taken in each reporting year (01 April – 31 March). During this time range, statistics are not available for every week in each reporting year and this is indicated in the table.

Reporting Year	Number of MASH Calls Answered	Number of weeks in reporting year statistics are available	Comment
2016/17	20,049	21	Detailed statistics gathering commenced in Nov 2016.
2017/18	37,626	52	
2018/19	20,982	51	Reporting not available for 1 week during year.
2019/20	10,066	27	Reporting not available for 25-week period.
2020/21	17,346	52	
2021/22	16,927	52	
2022/23	17,182	52	
2023/24	16,959	51	Reporting not available for 5 days due to system switch.
2024/25	8,649	26	Reporting spans April - September 2024

4. For each year in the period, how many cases of those recorded at risk of exploitation were investigated by the council

See response to Question 2. This will exceed 18 hours work to collate and compile.

5. For each year in the period, how many cases of those recorded to be involved in exploitation were investigated by the council

See response to Question 2. This will exceed 18 hours work to collate and compile.

6. Please provide an annual breakdown of the council budget set aside to tackling Child Sex Exploitation

Financial Year	Budget
Teur	£
2015/16	274,552
2016/17	264,522
2017/18	270,816
2018/19	783,953
2019/20	879,787
2020/21	941,090
2021/22	1,041,600
2022/23	1,160,813
2023/24	1,384,928
2024/25	1,415,349

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: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> 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