



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI663473257**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Looked-After Children and Savings Accounts.

You have requested the following information:

For the purposes of this request, please provide information for the period from the establishment of the Junior ISA scheme in November 2011 to the end of the last full municipal year (31 March 2023):

1. How many children in your care during this period have been in continuous care for 12 months or more?

2,385 children in care between November 2011 and 31 March 2024 were in continuous care for 12 months or more.

2. How many children in your care during this period have been referred to The Share Foundation for the opening of a savings account under the Junior ISA scheme?

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.

We estimate it would exceed 18 hours because the information is not held in a reportable format and would require a manual examination of individual files provided to the Share Foundation to

collate the data.

This part of your request has therefore been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

3. What process or system does the local authority have in place to identify children who meet the eligibility criteria for the Junior ISA scheme and ensure their information is submitted to The Share Foundation?

There is a dedicated Junior ISA reporting system in place, executed monthly which reports all children in continuous care for 12 months or more along with children who have left care. The system assesses information from the operational children's social care system via a reporting data warehouse. Information is transferred securely to the Share Foundation.

4. How many children meeting the eligibility criteria for a Junior ISA during this period, if any, have not had their information passed to The Share Foundation, and what were the reasons for this?

Not applicable. Information for all eligible children is extracted and passed to the Share Foundation

5. What training or guidance has been provided to social workers or staff during this period to ensure awareness of the Junior ISA scheme and its requirements?

The lead accountant attends the children in care service meeting every year to refresh all staff on the process of children in care savings, and advise what needs to be done in order for savings to be paid. Part of the briefing also covers the remit of junior ISA – and the social worker's responsibility when the child becomes a looked after child and how they can access their accounts.

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