

Coventry City Council  
Civic Centre 1  
Earl Street  
Coventry  
CV1 5RS

Please contact Sue State  
Direct line 024 7683 1635  
[sue.state@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:sue.state@coventry.gov.uk)

Our reference:20107166  
10 June 2013

Dear [REDACTED]

### Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information about commissioning for looked after children which the Council received on 10 May 2013. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You have requested the following information;

**1. What is the current name, title, contact email and telephone number for the most appropriate individual in the council able to respond to any queries that independent sector providers may have in regards to commissioning arrangements for looked after children.**

Russ Garcia is the contact for commissioning questions or issues:

Russ Garcia,  
Senior Contract Officer  
Children's Commissioning  
Directorate of Children, Learning & Young People  
Room 15, Civic Centre 1  
Little Park Street  
Coventry  
CV1 5RS

Tel: 024 76834146

Email: [Russell.Garcia@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:Russell.Garcia@coventry.gov.uk)

**2. When sourcing care placements for looked after children, does your council have a policy of always looking exclusively at availability within your in-house provision before considering the wider market or do you adopt a level playing field**



**approach and look at options across in-house and external provision at the same time?**

The Council does look at in-house provision before considering the wider market but the decision on whether to place internally is based on securing an appropriate match to meet the needs of the individual child.

**3. Could you please forward a copy of the form (blank template), detailing needs and placement requirements that is used to inform providers that you are seeking a placement for an individual child.**

Please see attached

**4. There are anecdotal reports that LA's across England have a policy of ensuring that, wherever a child is accommodated and there is a need to place the child with an independent provider, contracting officers are regularly being instructed to limit the placements to 28 days. The rationale being that this becomes a 'holding placement' and provides time for a Local Authority to find a vacancy within their own provision. Please could you inform me if (a) this practice exists in your Local Authority and (b) the estimated % of placements made with the Independent sector on this basis**

This practice does not exist in our Authority

**5. Please can you confirm your involvement in any regional commissioning arrangements for fostering / residential framework contracts or preferred provider lists**

We do have involvement in regional commissioning arrangements for fostering and do hold residential framework contracts.

Please note that most of the information that you request is owned by the Coventry City Council and subject to copyright protection. Under the Re-Use of Public Sector Information 2005 Regulations you are free to use this information for your own use or for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use under the Regulations, for example; publication of the information or circulation to the public, will require permission of the copyright owner and may be subject to terms and conditions. For documents where the copyright does not belong to Coventry City Council you will need to apply separately to the copyright holder.

If you wish to apply to reuse the information you have requested or have any other issues relating to this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

I hope you feel that our response meets your request. However you have a right to make representations about the outcome or handling of your request – in the first instance this must be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this letter, to the Council's Information Governance Team at:

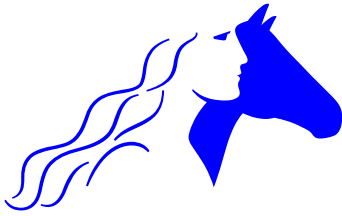
Council House, Room 21a  
Lower Ground Floor  
Earl Street, Coventry  
CV1 5RR  
[infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

If you have done the above but are still dissatisfied, you then have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

**Sue State**  
**Business Support Finance Officer**  
**Children, Learning & Young People's Directorate**



## Coventry City Council

Coventry Children's Placements Team are currently looking for a fostering placement. The placement criteria are as follows:

<b>Name</b>		<b>Gender</b>	
<b>DOB</b>		<b>Age</b>	
<b>Care plan</b>		<b>Legal status</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>		<b>Religion</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>Gender</b>	
<b>DOB</b>		<b>Age</b>	
<b>Care plan</b>		<b>Legal status</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>		<b>Religion</b>	

<b>Name</b>		<b>Gender</b>	
<b>DOB</b>		<b>Age</b>	
<b>Care plan</b>		<b>Legal status</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>		<b>Religion</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>Gender</b>	
<b>DOB</b>		<b>Age</b>	
<b>Care plan</b>		<b>Legal status</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>		<b>Religion</b>	

<b>Date placement required</b>	
<b>Type of placement required</b>	

<b>Background information</b>
<b>Current circumstances</b>
<b>Geographical needs</b>
<b>Health needs</b>
<b>Educational needs</b> (FC are expected to transport children to and from school provision)
<b>Emotional &amp; behavioural development needs</b>
<b>Contact</b> (FC are expected to transport children to and from contact)

**If you have any carers that can meet the requirements listed above can you forward their Form F/ Profile's and confirmation of date and category of approval by Fostering Panel.**

**If carers have been approved for over 12 months can you please submit their current Foster Home Review.**