



UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

People Directorate

Brian Walsh
Executive Director
People Directorate
Coventry City Council
Earl Street
Coventry CV1 5 RS
Please contact:

Jackie Rutherford
Tel: (024) 76 831196
Jackie.rutherford@coventry.gov.uk

Our reference: 20122366

Date: 11 March 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information about Foster Carers, which the Council received on 4 February 2014 and I apologise for the delay in replying to your request. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You have requested the following information;

How many children do you have placed at the date of your response with in-house Local Authority foster carers and how many with Independent Fostering Providers? Of these could you break down the total number of children who are aged under 10 and those who are over 10 years old?

161 children are placed with LA foster carers (73 under 10 years and 88 10 years and over).

267 children are placed with agency foster carers (144 aged under 10 years and 123 aged 10 years and over).

Please provide the contact details (name, job title, telephone and email) of staff in the following roles:

Fostering Team Manager
Jivan Sembi, Head of Regulated Services, Jivan.sembi@coventry.gov.uk, telephone (024) 76 831873.

Budget holder responsible for in-house foster care budget – as above

Budget holder for independent foster care placements expenditure – Sally Giles, Head of Children’s Strategy and Commissioning, sally.giles@coventry.gov.uk, telephone (024) 76 833699.

Individual responsible for in-house fostering recruitment
Jivan Sembi, Head of Regulated Services, Jivan.sembi@coventry.gov.uk, telephone (024) 76 831873.

Service Lead / Commissioner responsible for use of independent fostering providers
Russ Garcia, Senior Contracts Officer, russ.garcia@coventry.gov.uk, telephone (024) 76 834146.

In-House Fostering Service

How many new foster carer households has your in-house fostering service recruited so far in the financial year 2013/14?

Of these, how many of them transferred from an Independent Fostering Provider?

How many foster carer households has your in-house fostering service de-registered so far in 2013/14?

What is the target or anticipated number of new foster carer households your in-house fostering service plans to recruit in the financial year 2014/15

Please see the attached link to the Annual Fostering Report below:

<http://internaldemocraticservices.coventry.gov.uk/documents/s13705/Fostering%20Service%20Report%202012-13.pdf>

Please provide a copy of the payment structure (fees and allowances) you offer your in-house foster carers

The web link below provides information on the payment structure for Foster Carers:

www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/6730/fees_and_allowances_for_coventry_foster_carers

Based on all of your current in-house fostering placements (excluding short break and respite), what is the average weekly cost of a placement with an in-house foster carer?

The average weekly cost is £485

What was your actual and projected budget expenditure for in-house fostering placements in the financial year 2013/14.

Actual Expenditure 2013/14 - £3,177,651
Budget 2013/14 - £3,695,278

What is your projected budget expenditure for in-house fostering placements in the financial year 2014/15

Projected Budget - £3,695,278

Use of Independent Fostering Providers (IFPs)

Does your Local Authority have a tendered foster care framework in place for Independent Fostering Providers?

Yes.

If so, which Independent Fostering Providers are on the contract

Action for Children
Familyplacement.com
Jay Fostering
TACT
NFA
Compass
Fostering Solutions
Pathway Care
Father Hudsons
Clifford House
Mainstream
Nexus
By the Bridge

Also is this a collaborative contract and if so which other Local Authorities use it?

This is a collaborative contract and is used by Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull.

Based on all of your current independent fostering placements (excluding short break and respite), what is the average weekly cost of your placements with Independent Fostering Providers?

Average cost - £772

What was your actual and projected budget expenditure for independent fostering placements in the financial year 2013/14

Actual Expenditure 2013/14 - £10,404,941
Budget 2013/14 - £5,742,601

What is your projected budget expenditure for independent fostering placements in the financial year 2014/15

Projected Budget - £5,742,601

Please provide the names of the 5 largest Independent Fostering Providers in terms of total number of placements within your Local Authority catchment area.

1. Jay Fostering
2. By the Bridge
3. COMPASS
4. Sunbeam
5. Pathway Care/TACT

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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.

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

If you have done this and are still dissatisfied, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely

Jackie Rutherford