



**Information Governance Team**

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI406774204**

Thank you for your request for information relating to care leavers.

You have requested the following information:

**1. How many care leavers currently live in your local authority area?**

	<b>Registered with Coventry City Council</b>	<b>Living in Coventry</b>
Number of Care Leavers*	465	328

\*These figures are as of 22 March 2022

**2. How many care leavers are in semi-independent or independent living? Such as supported housing, rented accommodation**

	<b>Semi Independent or Independent Living (registered with Coventry City Council)</b>	<b>Semi Independent or Independent Living (living in Coventry)</b>
Number of Care Leavers*	260	213

\*These figures are as of 22 March 2022

**3. How many care leavers ceased receiving support from the local authority?**

For Questions 3 and 10 (below) 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.

The requested information is held in a non-reportable format and therefore an officer would need to manually review each care leaver's record to collate the requested information. It has been estimated this would exceed the 18-hour limit under the Act. This part of your request has been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

**4. Does your local authority provide care leavers with any kind of help to manage their personal finances?**

**Tick ONE that applies**

Yes.

**If "Yes", please go to 4.1**

**4.1 In the last financial year, how did your local authority support care leavers to manage their personal finances and how many care leavers received this type of support?**

**• From a local authority employee:**

**Such as: Personal Adviser, case worker, social worker, LA employed youth worker**

All care leavers are offered support with budgeting and managing finances. This is included in the pathway planning. This support is provided by the Personal Adviser and Social Workers.

Children and Care Leavers on the House Project are provided with support budgeting as part of the National House Project portfolio.

**• From an outside organisation: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Such as: specialist charity, Jobcentre Plus, non-LA employed youth worker**

The Job Centre provide budgeting and money management calculation support. There is a charity of Christians Against Poverty that also provide a money management tool that can be utilised.

**• Both the above: \_\_\_\_\_**

**4.2 If support is provided by a local authority employee, what training and support do they get for helping care leavers manage their personal finances?**

DWP training

House Project training

Local charity money management training

**4.3 If support is provided by an outside organisation, do you commission this work? If yes, what commissioning framework do you use to outsource the work?**

**4.4 If support is provided by an outside organisation, which organisation(s) do you use?**

**4.5 If support is provided by an outside organisation, how much money did your local authority ring-fence for commissioning this work in the last financial year?**

Questions 4.3 to 4.5 are not applicable.

**4.6 Which of the following topics does your local authority and/or outside organisation(s) cover when helping care leavers manage their personal finances?**

- Junior ISAs or Child Trust Funds
- Tenancy agreements: Rights & Responsibilities
- Cost of moving in
- Avoiding eviction
- Paying household bills
- Choosing utility providers
- Banking – Accounts & Savings
- Borrowing safely
- Budgeting – Weekly & Monthly
- Spending habits – Good & Bad
- Shopping – Offers, consumer rights
- Benefits – Entitlements & Universal Credit
- Online safety and spotting scams
- Risks of money-muling
- What's next – Planning for the future?
- Getting identification (NINO, passport)
- Other, please state \_\_\_\_\_

Coventry City Council covers all of the above.

**4.7 Is it mandatory for care leavers to complete a course in managing personal finances?  
Tick ONE that applies**

No.

**4.8 Of care leavers who were mandated to complete a course on managing personal finances, how many completed the course?**

Not applicable.

**5. What other support and entitlements can care leavers apply for from their local authority?  
Such as: care grants, exceptional financial support in emergencies, free bus pass**

Detailed in Money Matters document.

**6. Which care leavers are exempt from paying council tax?**

All Coventry care leavers 18-21 years.

**If any care leavers pay council tax, please go to 6.1**

**If all care leavers are exempt, please go to 7.**

**6.1 How many care leavers accrued council tax arrears in the last financial year?**

**6.2 What was the average amount of council tax arrears that care leavers accrued in the last financial year?**

For Questions 6.1 and 6.2, these are not applicable. Please refer to Question 6.

**7. How many care leavers accrued rent or service charge arrears in the last financial year?**

**7.1 Of those who accrued rent or service charge arrears in the last financial year, what was the average amount accrued?**

**8. How many care leavers were served an eviction notice in the last financial year?**

**9. How many care leavers were evicted from their (LA provided) accommodation since mid-June 2021?**

**10. How many care leavers were evicted from their (LA provided) accommodation in the financial year 2018-2019?**

For Question 7 to 10, please refer to the answer provided to Question 3.

**11. What implications does eviction have for a care leaver when applying for future social housing?**

A joint housing protocol is in place which details the second chance housing priority and criteria.

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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](mailto: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](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**