



**Information Governance Team**

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

[www.coventry.gov.uk](http://www.coventry.gov.uk)

E-mail: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

Phone: 024 7697 5408

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Dear Sir/Madam

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

**Request ID: FOI675180597**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Junior ISAs Looked-After Children.

You have requested the following information:

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information regarding children in the care of your local authority. For the purposes of this request, please provide information for the period from the establishment of the Junior ISA scheme for the reporting years 2019/20 – 2023/24:**

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

In the period 01 April 2019 to 31 March 2024 (i.e. 2019/20 to 2023/24), 1,285 children 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?**

1,283 children identified in Question 1 were referred to the Share Foundation during this period. We can confirm that the two children who were not referred to the Share Foundation were allocated Junior ISA savings from the Council.

**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?**

A dedicated Junior ISA reporting system is 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?**

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 what needs to be done in order for savings to be paid. Part of the briefing also covers the remit of junior ISA – and social worker 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](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**