



**Information Governance Team**

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20 June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)  
Request ID: FOI714881979**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Children Services.

You have requested the following information:

**Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information: -**

**1. How many Looked After Children (LAC) do the Local authority have responsibility for between the ages of 5 and 16. Please provide the data that you have for the periods between April 2024 and April 2025?**

**Clarification - provide the data as at 30 April 2025.**

430 children.

**2. How many under 12's are accommodated in residential placements between April 2024 and April 2025?**

**Clarification - provide the data as at 30 April 2025.**

8 children.

**3. What is the average cost of each residential placement?**

**Clarification: What is the lowest cost for a placement and what is the highest cost of a placement?**

For the financial year 2024/2025, the highest costing residential placement was £32,500 (Joint

funded) per week and the lowest costing residential placement was £3,650 per week.

**4. How many children under 12 are accommodated in out of county residential placements?  
Clarification - provide the data as at 30 April 2025.**

2 children.

**5. How many Looked After Children (LAC) do the Local authority have responsibility for ages 15-18 years. Please provide the data that you have for the periods between April 2024 and April 2025?**

**Clarification - provide the data as at 30 April 2025.**

We currently have responsibility for 238 children aged 15 17 inclusive. Over 18's are not deemed as Looked After Children.

**6. How many LAC are currently placed in ring fenced LAC supported care accommodation placements?**

**Clarification: definition of 'ring fenced.'** This accommodation is for looked after children and care leavers only, each child will have their own bedroom but will share communal areas for example kitchen and living area.

Currently there are 47 young people which are accommodated at our placements.

**7. What is the average cost of each placement?**

**Clarification: What is the lowest cost for a placement and what is the highest cost of a placement?**

**Further clarification: This question relates to the above Ring-fenced accommodation. 16–18-year-old looked after children who live in supported accommodation.**

In the financial year 2024/2025, the highest costing supported accommodation placement was £9,000 per week and the lowest costing supported accommodation placement was £162 per week.

**8. Does the LA use out of county ring fenced supported accommodation for 16-18 years old looked after children?**

**Clarification: definition of 'ring fenced.'** This accommodation is for looked after children and care leavers only, each child will have their own bedroom but will share communal areas for example kitchen and living area.

Yes, we confirm we use ring fenced supported accommodation out of the county.

**9. Are the ring fenced placements that the local authority use for children aged 16-18 staffed 24 hours a day?**

The staffing level of placements is dependent on the needs of the child and will not always be 24 hours a day.

**10. How many staying put foster placements do you have in the LA?**

We currently have 30 Staying Put arrangements as of 30th April 2025.

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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**