



**Information Governance Team**

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)  
Request ID: FOI746230783**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Missing children.

You have requested the following information:

**Please provide the following information for the period 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024.**

**1. How many individual children (those aged 0 – 17) were reported missing in your local authority area?**

In 2024, 366 children were reported missing for Coventry City Council local authority.

**2. How many missing incidents were reported in relation to those missing children (those aged 0 – 17)?**

In 2024, 1,121 missing incidents were reported.

**3. How many of those missing incidents had a:**

- a. Sexual exploitation marker**
- b. Mental health marker**
- c. Criminal exploitation marker**
- d. Trafficking marker**

Coventry City Council report the following markers and the incidents with these markers were as follows:

| Marker                         | Number of missing episodes reporting risk in 2024 | Comment  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Risk of exploitation           | 352   |  |
| Mental health issues           | 269   |  |
| Engaged in criminal activities | c   | Values of 5 or lower are not reported to protect confidentiality |
| Been hurt or harmed            | c   | Values of 5 or lower are not reported to protect confidentiality |

Please note that we cannot report actual numbers as they are less than 5 (shown as c) and disclosure could identify the individuals. This has been done as the Council considers that this information meets the definition for personal data set out in Section 3(2) and 3(3) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) as:

*(2) personal data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual (subject to subsection (14)(c))”*

*(3) “Identifiable living individual” means a living individual who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to –*

*(a) an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data or an online identifier, or  
(b) one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of the individual.”*

The Council thus considers that the requested information is caught by the exemption to disclosure contained in Section 40 (2) of the FOI Act and the related first condition of Section 40 (3).

#### **4. In how many of those incidents was a return home interview completed?**

710 return home interviews were completed in 2024.

#### **5. In how many of those return home interviews was there evidence of harm having occurred?**

See response to Question 3. The harm risk marker was flagged in 5 or fewer cases in 2024. The specific number is not reported to protect confidentiality.

#### **6. In how many of those return home interviews with evidence of harm, was the harm:**

- a. Physical**
- b. Sexual**
- c. Self-harm**
- d. Suicide**
- e. Emotional / psychological**

The specific number of cases with evidence of harm was 5 or fewer.  
No further details are reported to protect confidentiality.

#### **7. If you routinely record another type of risk marker / type of harm that is not listed here, please also include that information and the number of incidents in which it was recorded.**

See response to Q3.

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**