



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI821824010**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Market Information on 16/17 year old Children Looked After Accommodation.

You have requested the following information:

I am writing to request information about the numbers and cost of placements for 16 and 17 year old looked after children in your local authority for the Fiscal Year 25/26.

1) How many 16 and 17 year old looked after children is your local authority responsible for currently?

174 children currently in care are aged 16 or 17 as at 6th April.

2) How many 16 and 17 year old looked after children in your local authority are currently placed out of area?

Of the 174 children, 47 are currently placed outside of Coventry.

3) What proportion of placements are:

- a) Block commissioned – 47%
- b) Framework placements 25%
- c) Spot purchased – 28%

4) What was the cost of placements/supported accommodation for 16 and 17 year olds per

week in the current year (25/26 fiscal year)?

- a) lowest cost - £270 per week
- b) highest cost £6,950 per week
- c) average cost - £1,336 per week

5) Are there sufficient placements in your local authority area for 16 and 17 year old looked after children who have an elevated level of needs?

Coventry City Council does not currently have sufficient local placements to consistently meet the needs of all 16- and 17-year-old looked after children with elevated or complex needs.

While the Council has a range of local provision, including foster care, supported accommodation and residential homes, demand for provision for older adolescents with higher levels of need continues to exceed available local capacity. This is particularly the case for young people presenting with multiple or complex needs, including significant mental health needs, risk taking behaviours, safeguarding concerns, or where foster care is no longer considered suitable.

As a result, the Council is not always able to place these young people within Coventry and, where necessary to meet individual needs, may use out of area or spot purchased provision. Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis, with the child's welfare as the primary consideration.

The Council recognises this as a commissioning and sufficiency concern and ongoing work to increase local capacity and improve the range of supported accommodation placements available for 16 and 17 year old looked after children with higher levels of need is underway.

6) What types of supported accommodation models are currently commissioned, or spot purchased for 16-17 year-old looked after children in your local authority? e.g. solo placements, shared accommodation, clustered models, staffed hubs, floating support, etc.

Coventry currently has a block contract for supported accommodation for 16/17-year-olds which provides a mixed model including solo placements, shared accommodation, parent and child provision, 24/7 staffed settings and supported lodgings.

7) What proportion of placements fall into each model type (if recorded)?

- Solo accommodation 33%
- Shared accommodation 61%
- Small shared 24/7- 2%
- Parent and child 1%
- Supported Lodgings -1%
- Solo self contained 24/7 2%

8) What types of supported accommodation provision does your local authority anticipate needing more of over the next 2–5 years?

Based on current information, the local authority expects demand for supported accommodation for young people with elevated or complex needs to increase, including provision offering higher levels of support that may reduce over time as young people progress towards independence.

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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

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.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance