



Reference: FOI-174

North Tyneside Council

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information **regarding Looked After Children** (also referred to as LAC, children in care, or children looked after by a local authority)

Please kindly include responses on the attached spreadsheet.

1. Please could you supply the name, job title, email address and telephone number of the commissioner with responsibility for Looked After Children and/or placements in children's care homes.

*For questions 2 through 6, please supply the following information for the **financial years 2018/19 to 2021/22**, and where possible, the **budget or most up to date snapshot available for 2022/23**.*

2. Please provide the total number of children looked after by the local authority (please include all placements at any point throughout the financial year).

3. Please provide the local authority's total expenditure on placements for looked after children (this is the total spend on all looked after children and should exclude expenses related to travel, social work visits etc).

4. Of the total number of children looked after by the local authority (q.2) please provide the number of placements in children's homes (not including unregulated children's homes, secure units or hostels)

5. Of the total number of children looked after by the local authority in regulated children's homes (q.4) please provide the number placed inside the local authority boundary (in area) and the number placed outside the local authority boundary (out of area). Please exclude unregulated children's homes.

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6. Of the number of children looked after by the local authority in regulated children's homes, please provide the number of children looked after by the local authority in:

- In placements inside the local authority boundary, in 'own provision' (operated by the local authority)
- In placements outside the local authority boundary, in 'own provision' (operated by the local authority)
- In placements inside the local authority boundary, in 'private provision' (operated by the independent sector)
- In placements outside the local authority boundary, in 'private provision' (operated by the independent sector)

7. Please provide the highest, average (mean), and lowest weekly fee currently paid for LAC in a regulated children's home (please include all placements in regulated children's homes, including those in and outside of the local authority boundary, as well as those operated by the local authority, the independent sector, and others).

Response:

Please see attached spreadsheet. However, please note additional comments below.

Question 1:

Providing you with these contact details does not permit you to use this information for direct marketing purposes.

I would advise you that if you wish to use the information we have provided to target individuals with direct marketing materials such as email, you need to be mindful of your obligations under the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003. I therefore strongly advise you to obtain the explicit permission of the staff member(s) before sending an unsolicited email.

Organisations can only send unsolicited marketing by electronic mail where the individual has specifically requested it, i.e. they have opted in. You also need to be mindful that if you sell, give or share any information we have provided in response to your request to third parties, this could constitute a breach of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Question 3:

This information is refused in answer to this request under section 21, information accessible to the applicant by other means. The reason for this is that this information is published on the North Tyneside Council website in its Section 251 statement which can be accessed via the following link: <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/page/7403/council-finances>

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Question 7:

A request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 entitles an applicant to recorded information only. Averages are not recorded by the Authority.

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