



Reference: FOI0780

Request:

Please provide the following information that your local authority holds:

1. Provide a link to your local authority's kinship care policy (this may also be known as your family and friends care policy).

This is under review in collaboration with Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council.

2. Does your local authority have a named designated lead manager responsible for kinship care (also known as family and friends care)? If so, what is their name and contact details, and what is the title of their substantive post?

Jill Dixon, Team Manager, Fostering Service, email jill.dixon@northtyneside.gov.uk tel no. 0191 6438234

3. Does your local authority have a written policy and/or procedure that sets out financial support for children in kinship care under the following arrangements, and if so, please provide a copy of the policy and/or procedure(s):

- a) Children placed or living in family and friends care overall (encompassing all the different types of arrangements below)
- b) Children placed with family and friends foster carers?

Age	Weekly Fostering Allowance Standard	Birthday Allowance	Christmas/ Religious Festival Allowance	Holiday Allowance
0 – 4	134.49	134.49	134.49	134.49 x2
5– 10	147.84	147.84	147.84	147.84 x2

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of the Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Head of Law and Governance, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY



Reference: FOI0780

11 – 15	184.05	184.05	184.05	184.05x 2
---------	--------	--------	--------	-----------

c) Children subject to a Special Guardianship Order?

Financial Policy Attached

d) Children subject to a Child Arrangement Order or Residence Order?

Yes, attached

e) Children living in private fostering arrangements?

f) Children living in kinship care informal arrangements (where there is no legal order)?

4. Please complete this table. If you do not have the information please state *N/A*.

Spend on financial allowances for children in kinship care

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of the Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Head of Law and Governance, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

Date: 14/05/2019

Page 2 of 6



North Tyneside Council

Reference: FOI0780

	How much did the local authority spend in 2017/18 (01 April 2017 to 31 March 2018)? £	How many children benefited from such spend in 2017/18?	Please state the formula for how allowances are calculated, if this information is not set out as part of the answer to question three.	Please state whether there are any restrictions to this allowance or payment (e.g. maximum length of time carers are eligible for these allowances or the age of the child at which these allowances stop)? If yes, please explain what the restrictions are, if this information is not covered in your policy or procedures provided in response to answer three.
Financial allowance provided to friends and family foster carers	<i>Figures are not split out specifically for family & friends of foster carers</i>		As per 3b	Up to 18 years of age
Special Guardianship Order Allowance	£2,546,147 This includes backdated payments to Special Guardian carers		Attached Means Test	Up to 18 Years of Age and living within household
Child Arrangement Order and Resident Order	£149,244	68	Attached Means Test	Up to age 18

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of the Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Head of Law and Governance, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY



Reference: FOI0780

Allowances				
Section 17 Child in Need payments for children in kinship care	£89,780 <i>This is the total we pay for Section 17 and we don't separately identify for children in Kinship care</i>			
Total financial payments/allowances/section 17 payments to kinship carers	£2,785,173			

5. Do you have a written policy about how kinship carers can access legal advice including, how this is funded? If yes, please provide this.

As per financial policy attached for special guardians, we send a letter to applicants who request viability assessments on how to access legal advice.

If you do not have a written policy, what guidelines do you use in determining whether to pay for independent legal advice or representation for a kinship carer or potential kinship carer? E.g. an initial consultation for £x.

6. Between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018, what was the **total** local authority budget spent on all children placed or living in family and friends care overall?

Can this be broken down by total local authority spend on:

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of the Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Head of Law and Governance, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY



Reference: FOI0780

a) Children placed with family and friends foster carers?

This information is not held in the format requested.

b) Children subject to a Special Guardianship Order?

answers in table above.

c) Children subject to a Child Arrangement Order or Residence Order?

Answers in table above.

d) Children living in informal arrangements (where there is no legal order)?

This information is not held in the format requested.

7. Please state how many looked-after children were placed in friends and family foster placements as of 31st March 2018.

70

8. Of the number of looked after children placed in friends and family foster placements as of 31st March 2018, how many were previously placed by the local authority in:

a) A foster placement (or placements) with unrelated carers?

30

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of the Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Head of Law and Governance, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

Date: 14/05/2019

Page 5 of 6



Reference: FOI0780

b) A different family and friends foster placement?

16

c) A residential children's home setting?

5

d) Any other provision for looked-after children?

4

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of the Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Head of Law and Governance, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

Date: 14/05/2019

Page 6 of 6