Reference: FOI3752



#### **Request:**

# This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), for a copy of the documents containing the following information:

## 1. Details of the lowest, highest and average weekly fee rates agreed with external suppliers of Independent Foster Care Services for the current year (2021/2022).

\*\*The lowest fee is £354 and the highest fee is £1021. Information on averages not held.\*\*

# 2. Details of the lowest, highest and average weekly fee rates paid to local authority carers.

\*\*The lowest fee is £110 per week and the highest is now £550 per week. There are some carers that remained on an old scheme so that they weren't disadvantaged when we looked at fees, which is £600 per week. Information on averages not held.\*\*

(Please note that for questions 1 and 2, we do not require details of all rates paid to individual suppliers, simply minimum, maximum and average rates payable.)

3. Details of the rates of each tier for independent fostering agencies (if there is a framework agreement in place), or confirmation that tier rates have not changed from the previous year.

\*\*Please see attached \_'NE7 Fee Structure 2020-21'\_. Please note that a fee uplift has not yet been confirmed for 2021/22 so these are still the current fees payable.\*\*

### 4. The number of looked after children in foster care as of 31 March 2021 and of those children, the percentage looked after by independent foster agencies.\

\*\*205 children in foster care, 14% of which with independent fostering agencies.\*\*

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