



## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 0415106  
Date            27 April 2015

### ***Data on Independent Visitors Services for looked after children in England***

#### **Request:**

1. a) Does your local authority have an Independent Visitor service?

Yes

b) Is the service run internally or externally?

Externally

c) If the service is external, who is the provider?

Children's Society from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2015. Previous provider was SOVA

d) What is the agreed number of matches for your service at any one time? (This may be found in the contract).

5

2. a) How many children / young people are currently matched with an Independent Visitor?

The new provider began on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 and we have not yet had the first quarter monitoring information. When the contract was transferred over 5 young people were matched

b) How many children / young people have been referred and are on a waiting list?

When contracts was transferred to the new provider, 2 young people were awaiting matches

c) How many current matches have been visiting for over two years? Over five years?

No current matches have been visited over 2 years or 5 years

3. a) What is the annual budget for the service in 2015/16? £12375  
b) What was the annual budget for 2014/15? £12320  
c) What was the annual budget for 2013/14? £12320

4. a) What is the eligibility criteria for children / young people receiving your Independent Visitor service and how does the local authority prioritise referrals?

The young person has to be a Looked After Child (LAC) between 5-18 years old. Referrals are made via referral form and sent to senior social worker and then to the provider.

- b) How many current matches are funded for young people aged 18yrs – 25yrs?

1 match.

5. How many full-time equivalent workers are staffing your Independent Visitor service (Including any coordinators, administrators, managers)? Please break down by staff type.

This information is not currently available.