

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 111581
Date 16 November 2015

Fostering

Request:

1. Placement Numbers could you please give information as requested below- as of todays date

Placement Type	Total Number of Looked After CYP in Placement at Date of your FOI response	Total Number of CYP Placed within your LA boundary at Date of your FOI response	Total Number of CYP Placed Outside of your LA boundary at Date of your FOI response	Average Cost of Placements (£)	Total Cases for Average Cost of Placements
In-house Foster Care Placements	178	156	22	635.00	6
Independent Foster Care Placements	284	49	235	788.32	283

Question 1 above asks for average costs, but as you can see, some of the average costs are calculated on very small numbers of children (average for in-house foster is derived from 6 of 178 records, due to the rest being rated 0.00 as a block contract element). Therefore we have provided you also with the total number of cases used (final column), otherwise it's misleading.

2. Contacts

Please provide the contact details (name, job title, telephone and email) of staff in the following roles:

Role	Name	Job Title	Telephone Number	Email Address
Budget holder for independent foster care placement expenditure	Alison Hinds	Head of Looked After Children	01902 556556	Alison.hinds@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Service Lead / Commissioner responsible for	Carole Bourne	Head of Children's Commissioning	01902 556556	Carole.bourne@wolverhampton.gov.uk

<i>commissioning of independent fostering providers</i>				
<i>Director of Childrens Services</i>	Linda Sanders	Strategic Director People	01902 556556	Linda.sanders@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<i>Responsible Director or Service Manager for Children in Care</i>	Emma Bennett	Service Director Children and Young People	01902 556556	Emma.bennett@wolverhampton.gov.uk

2 Please provide the following:

<i>Placement Type</i>	<i>Budget for 2015/16 Financial Year</i>	<i>Expenditure for the period ending 30th Sept 2015 (from start of financial year)</i>
<i>In-house Foster Care Placements</i>	Budget 4.1 million	Spend £1.9 million
<i>Independent Foster Care Placements</i>	Budget £15.1 million	Spend £6.9 million

3 Procurement

<i>Role</i>	<i>Independent Foster Care Placements</i>
Does your Local Authority have a tendered foster care framework in place for Independent Fostering Providers?	No
If so what is the name of the contract?	
When does it expire	
If so, which Independent Providers are on the contract	
Also is this a collaborative contract, and if so which other Local Authorities use it?	

5.

<i>Role</i>	<i>Strategy</i>	<i>If Yes, could you please either provide a weblink showing where it can be found online, or email a copy?</i>	<i>If No, what is the reason for this?</i>
Does your Local Authority have a current Children and Young People's Plan?	Yes	http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=2264&p=0	

Does your Local Authority have a current Children in Care Sufficiency Strategy?	Yes	As above	
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6. Please provide the following:

<i>Role</i>	<i>Providers</i>
Please provide the names of the 3 largest Independent Fostering Providers in terms of total number of placements within your Local Authority catchment area	<p>In respect of this question, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information as we do not have access to other Local Authorities' information and therefore we are unable to provide the total number of placements..</p> <p>Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:</p> <p>"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".</p>
Please provide the names of the 3 largest Independent Fostering Providers you have placements with	<p><i>Children's Family Trust</i> <i>FCA Core Assets Fostering Ltd</i> <i>Freedom Fostering Ltd</i></p>