

Freedom of Information – Response – 26638

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please provide the following details for the period October 2024 to October 2025.

1. Number of unregulated placements - *How many children's social care placements were made in accommodation or provisions that are not registered with OFSTED during this period*

36 placements during this time period.

2. Total expenditure - *What was the total cost incurred by the council for these unregulated placements during the same period?*

£3,257,511 (during the period 01/10/2024 to 30/09/2025)

3. Number of providers - *How many different providers were used to procure these unregulated placements?*

6 different providers were used.

4. Frameworks and due diligence processes - *Please provide the names of any frameworks and/or describe the due diligence processes used to assess or procure these providers.*

A tender to create a "Select List" of providers to deliver crisis support packages is awaiting award – expected January 2026. Currently all the suppliers who have provided unregistered placements have met minimum standards and demonstrated experience. Due diligence has been carried out on all providers including financial and organisational checks, references, training and qualifications, policy and procedures, etc. Some unregistered placements are now registered by Ofsted.

