

## **Freedom of Information – Response – 26780**

*I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information.*

*If this full request goes over the cost limit, please answer questions in numerical order until cost limit is reached.*

*Please may you provide me with:*

**1. The total number of referrals to Children’s Services per year each year for the last five years**

Please note that Suffolk County Council have interpreted your request as information relating to children referred into Children’s Social Care Services and in particular those children that were CiN (Children in Need) and included on the DfE census data.

This data does not include children who may have received services through Health, Education or SEND and Inclusion.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Referrals in the year</b>
2020-2021	6,139
2021-2022	6,488
2022-2023	6,352
2023-2024	4,999
2024-2025	5,264

The data is based on the last five complete financial years and is sourced from the CIN Census data submitted to the DfE.

Please note the data is based on individual referrals and therefore some children may be counted more than once if they were the subject of more than one referral in a year.

**2. The total budget allocated to Children’s services (by calendar year or financial year, whichever is easier) each year for the last five years**

Net Children’s Services budgets by financial year:

- 21-22 – £123.270m
- 22-23 - £134.573m
- 23-24 - £150.900m
- 24-25 - £189.095m
- 25-26 – £205.380m

**3. The total cost of employing agency (temporary / non-staff) social workers per year each year for the last five years**

The information below covers Opus People Solutions and none arranged directly by CYP.

Financial Years					
20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26 (April - Dec)
£ 1,212,216.81	£1,002,372.12	£1,445,420.19	£ 1,607,705.11	£1,205,168.01	£ 1,180,120.20

4. *Total expenditure on housing children and young adults in non-local authority (ie. privately run) children's homes per year each year for the last five years, and the average cost per child per annum for such placements in each year for the last five years*  
Please see the following spreadsheet.

4. Total expenditure on housing children and young adults in non-local authority (ie. privately run) children's homes per year each year for the last five years, and the average cost per child per annum for such placements in each year for the last five years

	1	2	3	4	5
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Total Expenditure	£9,685,300.90	£10,861,177.15	£15,831,000.06	£21,752,859.23	£26,579,997.85
Average Annual Cost per Child	£122,598.75	£123,422.47	£142,621.62	£194,221.96	£126,571.42
average weekly cost	£2,357.67	£2,373.51	£2,742.72	£3,735.04	£2,434.07