

Freedom of Information – Response – 26946

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

Please provide the following for the 2024/25 financial year (or the most recent 12-month period you hold):

1. TOTAL CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL HOMES SPEND

What was your local authority's total annual expenditure on external children's residential homes?

Please include: All spending on children's homes provided by private, voluntary, or other local authority providers.

Please exclude: Residential special schools, secure units, parent & child units, supported accommodation, fostering, and any homes operated directly by your LA.

Note: If your finance system cannot separate residential special schools from children's homes, please provide the combined total and note this in your response.

£26,453,345.49

2. IN-HOUSE RESIDENTIAL PROVISION

a) How many residential children's homes does your LA operate directly (i.e., LA-employed staff, LA-managed)?

6

b) What is the total number of registered beds/places in these LA-operated homes?

31

c) Does your LA have plans to open any new in-house residential children's homes in the next 3 years? If yes, how many homes/beds are planned?

Yes

4 homes, 8 beds.

3. CHILDREN IN RESIDENTIAL HOMES PLACED OUTSIDE YOUR LA

As of the date of this response:

a) How many children looked after are currently placed in residential children's homes (total number, regardless of location)?

132

b) Of these, how many are placed in homes outside your local authority boundary?

*Please provide numbers for **residential children's homes** only, not all out-of-area placements (e.g., exclude foster care, supported accommodation).*

45

4. USE OF UNREGISTERED HOMES

During the year, how many children looked after spent any time in a children's home that was not registered with Ofsted?

Please exclude: Placements with family/friends, supported accommodation, foster care, and residential special schools.

Year 2024-2025 - 23

