

Freedom of Information – Response – 27243

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting information regarding the council's expenditure on residential care placements for children in private care homes.

Please note:

- A child may appear in several years if they're in a Children's Home for more than one year
- Each year is the number of unique children in that year, a child may be in several Children's Homes in a year but is only counted once in each year.
- Suffolk County Council have used the definition of Children's Home as Placed in homes subject to Children's Homes regulations

Please provide the following information:

1. The number of children for whom the council funded private residential care home placements in each of the last ten completed financial years;

A –

| Placement End Date | 2016 /17 | 2017/ 18 | 2018/ 19 | 2019/ 20 | 2020/ 21 | 2021/ 22 | 2022/ 23 | 2023/ 24 | 2024/ 25 | 2025/ 26 |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Child Count | 52 | 39 | 37 | 52 | 50 | 48 | 73 | 90 | 107 | 118 |

2. The council's total expenditure on placing children in private residential care homes for each of the last ten completed financial years.

A – Suffolk County Council keep financial records for a maximum of 7 years, therefore please see below the last 7 completed financial years:

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|---------|----------------|
| 2019/20 | £7,109,268.10 |
| 2020/21 | £9,685,300.90 |
| 2021/22 | £10,861,177.15 |
| 2022/23 | £15,831,000.06 |
| 2023/24 | £21,752,859.23 |
| 2024/25 | £26,579,997.85 |
| 2025/26 | £36,082,808.58 |