

Freedom of Information – Response – 27442

I am writing to submit a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information held by Suffolk on its area's young carers. Specifically, I request responses to the following questions:

1. How many requests for young carers needs assessments has the council received since 1 Jan 2021? Please provide a total number as well as a breakdown by age. If a breakdown by age cannot be provided, please provide a breakdown by age group.

Since April 2020 there have been 4095 YCNAs that were completed/shared by the provider. Suffolk County Council are unable to provide any return around the ages/age ranges, as we do not hold that data.

2. Does the council run a young carers registry and, if so, please provide the number of individuals actively registered on it, both as a total number as well as a breakdown by age. If a breakdown by age cannot be provided, please provide a breakdown by age group.

Suffolk County Council (SCC) contract the Young Carers Service to Suffolk Family Carers, where they hold a registry of young carers, which is just over 3000, but cannot break it down further than that.

3. How much did the council spend, if anything, in the last fiscal year on support programs for young carers (i.e. unpaid carers 18 years of age or younger)?

The table below shows the annual budget in supporting Young Carers.

2020/21	£180k
2021/22	£180k
2023/24	£180k
2024/25	£207k
2025/26	£207k

4. Does the council have any specific supports in place for carers 8 years of age or younger? If so, what are they and how much money was spent on them in the last fiscal year?

SCC contracts Suffolk Family Carers to provide a county-wide Young Carers support service. This service accepts referrals for/from young carers aged 5 – 18yrs.

Funding provided to support that service is detailed in question 3.

5. Does the council have an age range for how it defines young carers?

A young carer is someone aged under 18 who cares for a friend or family member who, due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction, cannot cope without their support.

