

Freedom of Information Request – Response – 27701

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

Please could you provide the following information relating to children's social care placements (residential care, including children's homes, secure accommodation, and supported accommodation) as at the most recent date for which data is available:

1. The total number of looked after children currently placed in residential care (children's homes, secure children's homes, and supported accommodation) by the council.

As at end 12 August 2026

Provision	Number of Children Placed
Children's homes	128 (purchased and in house)
Secure Children's Homes	N/A
Supported Accommodation	99

2. The number of current residential placements costing:

- a. £5,000 or more per week*
- b. £10,000 or more per week*
- c. £15,000 or more per week*
- d. £20,000 or more per week*

As at end 13/08/2026

Provision	a) £5000-£9,999.99	b) £10,000 - £14,999.99	c) £15,000 - £19,999.99	d) £20,000+
Children's homes	82	8	<5	0
Secure Children's Homes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Supported Accommodation	0	0	0	0

3. The single highest weekly cost currently being paid for any individual residential placement, and the length of time (in days) that placement has been in place.

As at end 13 August 2026 for the 2026-27 Financial year.

Please note that costs can increase and decrease depending on the children's needs.

Provision	single highest weekly cost currently being paid for any individual residential placement	the length of time (in days) that placement has been in place, at the costs indicated.
Children's homes	£15,322.62	255
Secure Children's Homes	N/A	N/A
Supported Accommodation	£ 3,825.00	34

4. The total number of residential placements that have, to date, cost £500,000 or more in cumulative spend, and the number that have cost £1 million or more in cumulative spend.
For the 2026/27 Financial year to date.

Provision	a)	b)
Children's homes	0	0
Secure Children's Homes	N/A	N/A
Supported Accommodation	0	0

5. The number of current residential placements provided by:
a. The local authority's own in-house provision
b. Private/independent providers
c. Voluntary sector providers

Provision	a)	b)	c)
Children's homes	20	108	0
Secure Children's Homes	N/A	N/A	N/A
Supported Accommodation	0	99	0

6. The number of children currently placed in unregistered or unregulated settings (i.e. not registered with Ofsted), if any, as at the most recent date available.

As at end 13/08/2026

Provision	a)
Children's homes	<5
Secure Children's Homes	N/A
Supported Accommodation	0

7. The council's total budgeted and actual spend on residential care placements for looked after children for the current financial year and the previous financial year.

Please note SCC are not able to provide response for the greyed out areas as we do not budget at placement type level

Provision	total budgeted current FY	actual spend 2026/27 (@31 July 2026) Current FY	total budgeted Previous FY	actual spend Previous FY
Children's homes		£12,866,626.18		£42,505,293.82
Secure Children's Homes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Supported Accommodation		£650,864.08		£5,410,127.60

8. The number of residential placements that are located outside the council's own local authority boundary.

As at end 13/08/2026

Provision	a)
Children's homes	42
Secure Children's Homes	N/A
Supported Accommodation	9