



# BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN'S TRUST

Our ref: 69686448  
20 January 2025

[REDACTED]

Thank you for the Freedom of Information request you have made; as per your request, please find attached the Trust's response in spreadsheet format. Please note that we are not able to provide projected data for the current year, but we have provided a year-to-date (up until November 2024) instead.

Please quote the reference number **69686448** in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with our response to your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days from the date this authority issued its initial response. Please outline which part of the response you are not happy with setting out your reasons. This request should be addressed to:

Corporate Information Governance Team  
PO Box 16366  
Birmingham  
B2 2YY  
Email: [infogovernance@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:infogovernance@birmingham.gov.uk)

If you are still dissatisfied with the Birmingham Children's Trust's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely,

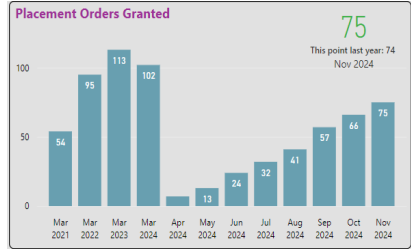
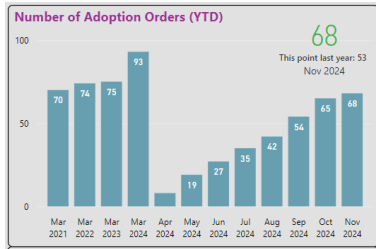
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**Disclosure Officer**

## Re Use of Public Sector Information

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Council: <b>Birmingham Children's Trust</b>					
Date: <b>20/01/2025</b>					
1. Please could you supply the name, email address and telephone number of the commissioner with responsibility for children in need of help and/or protection.	Name	Job title	Telephone No.	Email Address	
	James Patterson	Assistant Head of Service	07928506067	james.patterson@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk	
for questions 2-6 inclusive, please provide figures as a <b>total at the end of the financial year</b> . Please supply information specific to cases <b>where drug and/or alcohol misuse is a factor</b> .					
2. Please advise on the number of children identified as children in need.	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 (projected)	2024/25 (to date)
	1599	1749	1881		977
3. Please advise on the number of children who were subject to Section 47 enquiries.	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 (projected)	2024/25 (to date)
	861	929	1001		523.00
4. Please advise on the number of children who were subject to child protection conferences.	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 (projected)	2024/25 (to date)
	646	760	814		414
5. Please advise on the number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan.	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 (projected)	2024/25 (to date)
	582	733	781		400
6. Please advise on the number of children whose cases were taken to court proceedings concluding in care/placement/adoption orders.	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 (projected)	



7. Please advise as to which of the above stages may use drug and alcohol testing as evidence and reasons as to why it is/isn't used (write in answer).	We would consider the use of drug and alcohol testing as evidence at all stages within our statutory processes if we consider the impact to be a contributory factor in causing harm to a child. It is highly unlikely that we would commission our own testing within the child in need pathway as the level of risk to the child would not be considered as causing significant harm but we would encourage and support a parent/carer in access local substance misuse agencies that could address their usage and engage them in testing as part of a programme of intervention.
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8. For each FY 2023/24 and 2024/25, how many hair drug and alcohol tests were conducted?	2023/24 419	2024/25 (projected) 221 up to the end of November 2024
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9. In a situation where hair drug/alcohol testing is used as evidence, do you have a preferred provider for this service? List in top row. If not, please provide a list of providers used in these cases and the total expenditure with each provider for FY 2023/24 and 2024/25.	Provider
	<b>2023/2024</b>
	<b>Providers:</b>
	- Abbott Toxicology
	- Alphabiolabs
	- CANSFORD LABORATORIES
	- DNA Legal
	- E4 Law Ltd
	- Lextox
	Overall expenditure: £211,334
	<b>2024/25:</b>
	<b>Providers:</b>
	- Abbott Toxicology
	- Alphabiolabs
	- DNA Legal
	- E4 Law Ltd
	- Keith Parsons
	- Sonova UK
	Overall expenditure up to the end of November 2024: £107,526