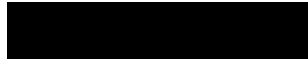




Our ref: 70391173

27 February 2025



Freedom of Information Act 2000



Thank you for the Freedom of Information Request you have made. I can confirm that the information requested is held by Birmingham Children's Trust and our response is detailed below.

1. A copy of the local authority's 'local offer' to care leavers that was in place on 1 October 2024

The information you have requested can be found in the attached document, file name 'Offer to care experienced young people March 2024'.

2. A copy of the local authority's financial policy as related to care leavers that was in place on 1 October 2024, and as the local authority are required to have in accordance with statutory guidance.

The information you have requested can be found in the attached document, file name 'care-leavers-financial-support-arrangements-april-2024'.

3. A copy of any current local authority practice guidance, management guidance, protocols, processes, strategies or plans associated with supporting care leavers to engage with higher education or attend university

The information you have requested can be found in the attached document, file name 'Supporting the Education and Promoting the Achievement of Children with a Social Worker'.

4. A copy of the local authority's last self-assessment submitted to an annual engagement meeting with Ofsted or an Ofsted standard or short

inspection, whichever was most recent. Please do not provide a copy of the self-assessment submitted to any focused or monitoring visit.

Under section 21 (1) (Information accessible to the applicant by other means) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible by other means and even if there is a charge or fee to obtain this information.

The information you have requested is publicly available through the following link:

[Trust Self Evaluation \(March 2024\) | Birmingham Children's Trust](#)

5. The total number of care leavers aged 18-25 eligible for support by your local authority effective 1 October 2024 (or if data is not available effective that date, the number today). For clarity, this and 6, 7 and 8 below should include both 'former relevant' and 'qualifying' care leavers

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6. The number of care leavers aged 18-25 in your local authority that were engaged in higher education study effective 1 October 2024 (or if data is not available effective that date, the number today) to include whether the course is

- a. undergraduate**
- b. or postgraduate**
- c. other**

(if a breakdown is not available of the type of course, please provide the total number in higher education study)

As of 1 October 2024, The Trust had:

99 care leavers studying at Undergraduate level (for a degree)

6 care leavers studying at Postgraduate level (postgrad degree)

≤5 has completed a PhD this year.

Some information has been withheld. This information is exempt under Section 40(2) (Personal information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). Where the number is 5 or less, the Trust has replaced the figure with 'equal to or less than 5' ("≤5"). The numbers have been withheld to prevent individuals being identified; this is in line with the Information Commissioners guidance of anonymization, which mitigates the risk of individuals being identified. The Trust considers that individuals could potentially be identified from the very low numbers and that such identification would constitute a breach of one of the principles set out under the Data Protection Act 2018. This is on the basis that it could be combined with other reasonably available information to identify individuals. As this is personal data, disclosure under Freedom of Information is conditional upon

satisfying the First Data Protection Principle, that processing be fair, lawful and transparent. We recognise that there is a public interest in transparency and accountability in public decision making. We have balanced this against the privacy rights of the individual data subjects.

On balance, we consider the detriment to privacy through disclosure outweighs the interest that would be served. Accordingly, disclosure would be in contravention of the First Data Protection Principle. It is therefore appropriate for us to withhold this information under section 40(2) (*Personal information*) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) by virtue of section 40(3A)(a). We are therefore exempting this part of the request under section 40(2) of the Act by virtue of section 40(3A)(a) of the same Act.

7. The total number of care leavers aged 18-25 eligible for support by your local authority effective the date of the last SSDA903 return.

2729 from SSDA903 return date 01-04-2024

8. The number of care leavers aged 18-25 in your local authority that were engaged in higher education study effective the date of the last SSDA903 return.

As of the date of the last SSDA903 return the Trust had 146 care leavers aged 18-25 engaged in higher education.

Please quote the reference number **70391173** 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

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

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely,



Disclosure Officer

Re Use of Public Sector Information

Where Birmingham Children's Trust is the copyright holder of any information that may be released, re-use for personal, educational or non-commercial purposes is permitted without further reference to the Birmingham Children's Trust. Where the re-use is for other purposes, such as commercial re-use, the applicant should notify the Birmingham Children's Trust in writing to seek approval or agree terms for re-use.