



Our ref: 73327673
19 May 2025



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. I have detailed below the information that is being released to you.

Please can I request the following dataset regarding your missing children from 2024 to allow us to compare data with our regional partners.

Total missing episodes

4451

Of which repeat missing episodes

3204

% repeat missing episodes

72%

Episodes linked to top 10 missing in year

622

% episodes linked to top 10 missing in year

14%

Highest number of missing episodes for one child

118

Missing episodes for LAC

2194

% Missing episodes for LAC

49

Of which repeat missing episodes in month

This information is not held by the Trust in a readily accessible format. I can confirm that the Trust has kept a manual record (i.e. outside of case management systems).

From undertaking a sampling exercise in respect to similar Fol requests in the past, we estimate that it takes approximately 10 minutes to locate the file and locate specific information contained in the file, dependent on the size and complexity of the file.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) requires us to comply with a request, unless it would be too expensive to do so. Under s.12 (Cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit) of the Act, the cost limit for the Trust is £450 i.e. 18 hours at the rate of £25 per person per hour.

The cost limit allows us to consider when estimating the cost of complying with a request, time spent determining whether we hold the information requested; identifying, locating and retrieving it and extracting the information from the relevant documents.

In order for us to answer this question, there are 2194 records to review and we estimate that each one would take 10 minutes to review which would take 365 hours. We are therefore unable to process your request as to do so would exceed the cost limit as set out in s.12 of the Act.

In cases where the time involved in dealing with requests for information would exceed 18 hours, the Trust normally offers individuals the option to pay for the additional work over and above 18 hours, at a subsidised rate of £25 per hour. However, where the resources involved in dealing with a request would have detrimental impact on the Trust's ability to provide its core services, the Trust is entitled not provide this option, and accordingly, refuse the request outright.

In this case due to the amount of work and resources required to comply with this element of your request, the Trust is of the view that the resources involved in responding to your request, even if you were to pay the subsidised statutory rate of £25.00 per hour, would interfere significantly with the Trust's ability to provide its core services, as such, the Trust considers that it is appropriate to refuse this part of the request on the basis of Section 12 of the Act.

% repeat missing episodes for LAC

This information is not held by the Trust in a readily accessible format, as such, the Trust considers that it is appropriate to refuse this part of the request on the basis of Section 12 of the Act.

Missing episodes for other LA's LAC placed in your area

166

Missing episodes for children on CP plans

223

Missing episodes for children on CIN plans

558

Missing episodes for children in YJS

This information is not held by the Trust in a readily accessible format. I can confirm that the Trust has kept a manual record (i.e. outside of case management systems).

From undertaking a sampling exercise in respect to similar FoI requests in the past, we estimate that it takes approximately 10 minutes to locate the file and locate specific information contained in the file, dependent on the size and complexity of the file.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) requires us to comply with a request, unless it would be too expensive to do so. Under s.12 (Cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit) of the Act, the cost limit for the Trust is £450 i.e. 18 hours at the rate of £25 per person per hour.

The cost limit allows us to consider when estimating the cost of complying with a request, time spent determining whether we hold the information requested; identifying, locating and retrieving it and extracting the information from the relevant documents.

In order for us to answer this question, there are 4451 records to review and we estimate that each one would take 10 minutes to review which would take 741 hours. We are therefore unable to process your request as to do so would exceed the cost limit as set out in s.12 of the Act.

In cases where the time involved in dealing with requests for information would exceed 18 hours, the Trust normally offers individuals the option to pay for the additional work over and above 18 hours, at a subsidised rate of £25 per hour. However, where the resources involved in dealing with a request would have detrimental impact on the Trust's ability to provide its core services, the Trust is entitled not provide this option, and accordingly, refuse the request outright.

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Total found episodes

4451

Found episodes with HRIs completed yourselves

1574

as % of found episodes

We are not able to provide this information as we cover multiple episodes in 1 RHI.

Found episodes with no HRI - other LA LAC

0 (We do not offer RHI to OLA children)

as % of found episodes

0

Found episodes with no HRI recorded

Unable to answer as we cover multiple episodes in 1 RHI.

Your area as % of found episodes

We have an acceptance rate of 71%

**HRIs completed with the child/young person's agreement to engage
as % of HRIs completed by yourselves**

100%

**HRIs offered but completed without the child/young person's agreement to
engage as % of HRIs completed by you**

0%

HRIs completed with YP within 3 days of child found

65%

Of the HRIs completed with YP engagement - the % completed within 72 hours of found notification

65%

Of the HRIs completed without YP engagement - the % completed within 72 hours of found notification

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Total missing children

2531

Of which had repeat missing episodes in month

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% children had repeat missing episodes in month

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Total missing your area

253

Of which had repeat missing episodes in month

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% your area LAC had repeat missing episodes

347

Total missing children Opened to YJS

This information is not held in a readily accessible format, as such, the Trust considers that it is appropriate to refuse this part of the request on the basis of Section 12 of the Act.

Please quote the reference number **73327673** 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 17363

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.

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Disclosure Officer

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Birmingham Children's Trust

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