



Our ref: 76046118  
19 August 2025



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.

**1) Does your local authority have a process to refer children to targeted early help services when their case is closed after a Child in Need assessment? (Yes or No)**

We do not have a formal automatic process, however where families consent to ongoing targeted support within early help or universal services this will be identified and coordinated prior to any closure following a Child in Need Assessment. We have wrap around.

**2) For each of the periods and age groups as stated above, how many children received an early help assessment in your local authority?**

	Unborn	Under 5	5-9	10-15	16-17	Total Children
<b>1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021</b>	26	4564	431	578	124	5723
<b>1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022</b>	33	3883	1082	1378	300	6676
<b>1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023</b>	31	3086	1252	1808	434	6611
<b>1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024</b>	25	1671	1081	1594	369	4740
<b>1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025</b>	17	1465	1421	1917	420	5240

**3) How many children were subject to a child in need (CIN) assessment?**

Age Group	2020 - 21	2021 - 22	2022 - 23	2023 - 24	2024 - 25
<b>All children</b>	11841	13140	16069	15791	14458
<b>5 to 9</b>	3147	3541	4254	4161	3715
<b>10 to 15</b>	3960	4503	5510	5424	5057
<b>16+</b>	1209	1370	1759	1779	1707

**4) For how many children was the case closed following the CIN assessment?**

Age Group	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
All children	10036	11143	13601	9516

**5) How many of the children whose case was closed after CIN assessment were subsequently re-referred for a CIN assessment within 12 months of their initial referral?**

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 71299 records to review and we estimate that each one would take 10 minutes to review which would take 11883 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.

**6) How many of the children whose case was closed after the CIN assessment were referred to early help services?**

As above

**7) Of the group of children who had been referred on to early help services following the closure of their initial CIN assessment, how many were re-referred for a CIN assessment within 12 months?**

As above.

Please quote the reference number **76046118** 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: [info@governance@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:info@governance@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.

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### **Disclosure Officer**

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