



Our ref: 77798850
30 October 2025

[REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Dear [REDACTED],

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

1) Latest information on grooming gangs, including draft or ongoing reports, and statistics on victims, arrests, prosecutions, and convictions.

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 link below:

[12.05 FOI 73577625 - Child sexual exploitation | Birmingham Children's Trust](https://www.birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk/12.05-FOI-73577625-Child-sexual-exploitation)

2) Leadership and Accountability: Names and roles of officers, councillors, or designated leads responsible for safeguarding and oversight, including any council committees.

This information is not held by the Trust.

3) Public Safety Assurance: How the council monitors and safeguards children, and any communications to reassure the public.

This information is not held by the Trust.

4) Multi-Agency Coordination: Details of collaboration with West Midlands Police, schools, health services, and other agencies.

The Trust conducts daily meetings with partners, to share and analyse information from diverse sources, facilitating a timely and effective Multi-Agency response to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). These meetings enable us to:

- Share and validate intelligence, enhancing our understanding of emerging risks.
- Identify children vulnerable to CSE and provide early interventions to prevent grooming and exploitation.
- Prevent the re-victimisation of individuals by disrupting perpetrators and high-risk locations.
- Ensure victims receive appropriate services to support their recovery and mitigate the effects of trauma.

Our meeting schedule includes a daily morning briefing (one hour), missing children triage, disruption planning meetings, strategy meetings (for cases where there are immediate or significant concerns for children's safety), and complex strategy meetings convened when multiple children face immediate harm.

Attendees vary according to case requirements and may include representatives from relevant police teams (exploitation, missing persons, gangs unit, neighbourhood, PPU), Serious Youth violence, health services, education professionals, youth justice, the Rape Sexual Violence Project (RSVP), Aquarius, City of Birmingham Schools, care placements, and Children in Care Nurses. This collaborative approach ensures comprehensive intelligence sharing and provides broader opportunities for engagement and intervention, ultimately improving outcomes for children at risk.

We also work closely with the Independent Child Trafficking Guardian service to ensure trafficked children receive relevant advocacy and support.

We also coordinate a range of CSE training to equip a range of organisations and professionals, with the skills that they need to support children and their families.

At a strategic partnership level the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership have included 'Harm outside the home' as one of its priorities for 2025-27.

5) Support for Survivors: Services provided, including counselling, housing, and relocation, with annual expenditure.

RSVP is commissioned by BCT to provide therapeutic counselling for victims, with the aim of supporting recovery and reducing future vulnerability. RSVP also delivers advice and advocacy services for children involved in criminal justice processes and provides support to adults, including CSE survivors and affected parents or carers, to strengthen resilience against further exploitation.

BCT are currently evaluating our approach to CSE in response to Government guidance the Casey Audit (2025).

There is no dedicated housing relocation scheme for families affected by CSE. However, children identified as being at high risk have been placed in protective environments—such as therapeutic or other forms of residential care.

6) Funding: Annual budgets allocated to tackling grooming gangs and child sexual exploitation.

Budget allocated for 2025 /2026 is £2,938,999

Please quote the reference number **77798850** 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 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,

[REDACTED]
Disclosure Officer

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