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Our ref: 1589289



Nickesha Grapine

Dear Nickesha Grapine

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

This request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please accept our sincere apologies for our late response to your request for information.

#### **You requested and Our response:**

1. How do you currently accommodate care leavers young people(16-24 years old) and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) within your borough/out of borough?

**We use a range of accommodation including Supported accommodation, fostering, supported lodgings and supported living.**

2. How many care leavers or eligible young people (16&17 years olds) are living in supported or semi supported accommodation within your borough/out of borough?

**At 8 th July 2020, there was 1 Care Leaver and 11 Children Looked After**

3. How many young people and UASC did you accommodate in 2017/2018/2019 within in Durham and out of the county?

**The number of UASC accommodated in Durham was:**

**2017 = 7 (2 were out of county placements),**

**2018 = 0.**

**2019 = 0.**

4. What is the weekly cost including support hours and accommodation for placing a child (16- 18 years olds) in supported/semi supported accommodation?

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**This varies, there is no single cost, for example, the cost of Supported Lodgings (an in-house service) is £201.50 per week.**

5. What is the weekly cost including support hours and accommodation for placing an adult (18-24 years old) in supported/semi supported accommodation?

**As above, this will vary, but the weekly cost of an adult (aged 18+) within our Supported Lodgings service which is £205.52 per week.**

6. What is the weekly cost for the following support hours, 5 hours per week, 10 hours per week, 15 hours and 20 hours?

**The council has a framework of providers that it can access for accommodation and support for young people aged 16-17 (with complex needs). The hourly rate is capped at £20 but all providers have varying hourly rates under and including £20.**

7. What was the cost in 2017/2018/2019 for placing care leavers 16-18 and UASC in accommodation including support in Durham and out of county?

**We can confirm per s(1)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the requested information.**

8. Can you explain your commissioning process for supported living accommodation for care leavers 16 - 24-year-old and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC)? Do you spot purchase, have framework contacts/agreement or block contracts?

**We have a mixture of spot purchase arrangements, a framework of providers for young people with high level / needs which challenge services, an in-house supported lodging offer and a block supported living contract.**

9. How many block and spot purchasing agreements were made 2017/2018/2019 within in Durham and out of county for young people and UASC?

**We can confirm per s(1)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the requested information.**

10. Do organisations need to go through the tendering process to accommodate care leavers/young people(16-24 years old) and UASC on a spot purchase or block purchase basis?

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**The Council is required to tender for services. When young people need to be placed in an emergency and there is no capacity, spot purchase arrangement may be arranged.**

11. Can you send a copy of all the providers currently being used for the provision of services to leaving the care of young people 16+ and UASC?  
**See attached for list of all Supported living provisions spanning children commissioning and adults commissioning.**

12. How many care leavers/young people (16&24 years olds) and UASC are currently in supported/semi supported accommodation? Do you require more providers?  
**There are 33 Care Leavers (of which 3 are UASC) and 11 Children Looked After . We are always exploring new service provisions for young people.**

13. Who should be approached within the council to discuss commissioning, service provision, rates and referrals?  
**Mark Smith, Strategic Manager – Children’s Commissioning.**

Please quote the reference number 1589289 in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Please put your grounds for an appeal in writing and email us back explaining which internal review applies.

- Late (you want us to explain why the response was late or has not yet been provided)
- Disagree with exemption (wrong exemption, or applied incorrectly)
- Disagree with the public interest test (Explain in detail why you believe the public interest test favours disclosure.)
- Request is incomplete, information is missing (indicate what is missing), information is inaccurate Information is not what was requested.

Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to [inforigxxx@xxxxxx.xxv.uk](mailto:inforigxxx@xxxxxx.xxv.uk)

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

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF.  
Telephone: 01625 545 700  
Website: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours faithfully

Christine Paciorek  
Freedom of Information and Data Protection Officer

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