

Ms Alison Stevens

Information Management Shire Hall Warwick CV34 4RL **Telephone** 01926 412211

Please ask for Bruce Green

Our ref: 3202829 Your ref: Date: 8th May 2018

Dear Ms Stevens

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Your request for information has been considered by Warwickshire County Council under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by Warwickshire County Council, please see below for further details.

You asked us:

Could you please answer the following questions with regards to this Freedom of Information Request.

1. How many children are currently held on a section 20 order?

As at 31 March 2018 there were 182 children accommodated by Warwickshire County Council under Section 20.

2. How many children have been removed off a section 20 order in the last 12 calendar months?

169

Please note - The figure provided above is for the 2017/18 financial year (1 April 2017 -31 March 2018).

3. Of the children removed from a section 20 order in past 12 calendar months how many of these children were placed into LA care?

47 children moved from Section 20 accommodation to a Care Order.

Please note - The figure provided above is for the 2017/18 financial year (1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018).

Please also note - Of the 169 children who had a Section 20 accommodation legal status ended during the 2017/18 financial year; 122 children were discharged from care.

......and how many of these cases resulted in children being returned to the care of the Parents?

23 children are recorded as having an end reason "Return home to live with parents, relatives, or other person of parental responsibility".

Please note - The figure provided above is for the 2017/18 financial year (1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018).

4. How many children have been placed with an immediate family member such as Grandparents under the kincare clause or a Special Guardianship order in the past 12 calendar months?

87 children were placed with a kinship foster carer, and 30 children were discharged from care to a Special Guardianship Order.

Please note - The figure provided above is for the 2017/18 financial year (1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018).

5. What is the longest amount of time that a child has been left on a section 20 order without going to Court? Please give statistics for the past 3 calender's years?

The longest period that a child has been subject to Section 20 accommodation with Warwickshire County Council, over the last 3 years, are the children who have been subject to this legal status of since August 2003. As at 31 March 2018, this was 14 years.

Please also note that some children (especially unaccompanied asylum seeking children) are accommodated under Section 20 without ever going to court.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. 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:

Information Management
Shire Hall
Warwick
CV34 4RL

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Phone: 0303 123 1113 Website: <u>www.ico.gov.uk</u>

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Green Information Rights Officer