



Reference: RFI 1804084

Request:

1/ For the last four financial years (including April 2017 - March 31st 2018), on how many occasions did children in care ('looked after children') go missing?

All years up to 2017/18 are published as part of SFR50.

www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-looked-after-children

The preliminary figures for 2017/18 are 453 episodes

2/ For the last financial year (April 2017- March 2018), of the occasions where children in care went missing and were then found, how many were found to have been:

- a) hurt or harmed physically while they were missing
- b) sexually assaulted or exploited while they were missing
- c) involved in the sale of drugs while they were missing
- d) engaged in criminal activities during their absence

The data for missing episodes is not coded in this manner, and therefore would require manually checking the case files for the above 453 episodes, at 10 minutes per case, therefore this part of the request is refused under s12 (1) Freedom of Information Act 2000, since the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

In assessing the cost of complying, the costs attributable to officer time involved in complying have been taken into account. Such costs are limited to £450.00 under the Regulations, which equates to eighteen hours of officer time.

Please include all known incidences, even if a child experienced more than one e.g. where a child was both hurt or harmed physically and sexually assaulted, please included occasions as figures for both part a and part b.

Most of this information will be produced by Independent Return interviews which are conducted after children in care go missing. The findings are shared with the local authority when produced by a different authority on their behalf. Please see this link for more information:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/208528/Statutory_guidance_on_children_who_run_away_or_go_missing_from_home_or_care_consultation_-_final.pdf

3/ For the last four financial years (including April 2017 - March 31st 2018), how many children in care were unaccompanied asylum seeking children?

All years up to 2017/18 are published as part of SFR50.

www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-looked-after-children

The preliminary figures for 2017/18 are X children

The Code of Practice for Official Statistics requires that reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that all published or disseminated statistics protect confidentiality. To do this totals are

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rounded and small numbers are suppressed. "x" - numbers less than or equal to 5 are suppressed to protect confidentiality.

4/ For the last four financial years (including April 2017 - March 31st 2018), on how many occasions did unaccompanied asylum seeking children go missing?

X children

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