



Reference: FOI1559

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you provide me with the following responses to questions concerning respite care placements for children or young people with disabilities (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/short-breaks-for-carers-of-disabled-children>):

- 1) The number of children and young people placed in respite care for each of the last five financial years (including 2018/19)
- 2) The number of settings providing respite care to children and young people which have been closed over safeguarding concerns for each of the last five financial years (including 2018/19)
- 3) The number of safeguarding referrals concerning respite care placements where children and young people are residents for each of the last five financial years (including 2018/19). Some councils in England record safeguarding alerts generally, others as section 47 inquiries (http://www.londoncp.co.uk/chapters/chi_prot_enq.html#duty). Across Scotland, these types of alerts are more commonly known terminology-wise as Child Protection Referrals.
- 4) The number of allegations of physical abuse in respite care placements for young people for each of the last five financial years (including 2018/19)

Respite care is the term used to describe children who are subject to short-term break agreements. Special legal codes (V3 and V4) are used to identify this group of children https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/800361/CLA_Statistics_Guide_version_1.3.pdf

Response:

Please see accompanying spreadsheet.

Please note questions 3 and 4 are 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.

The reason for this is that to provide this information would require a manual check of 437 records, at 10 minutes per record in excess of 72 hours.

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

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