

From: [FOI Responses](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Bcc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI Request - [REDACTED] - Response
Date: 30 January 2024 13:28:00
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[FOI Request - \[REDACTED\] - Response Information.xlsx](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 10 January 2024, for information about Fostering placements for Looked After Children.

Request:

1. Who, within the local authority, has commissioning responsibility for Fostering placements for Looked After Children? Please provide the following:

- a. Name
- b. Job title
- c. Telephone no.
- e. Email address

2. How many approved foster carer households are registered with the Local Authority as at 31st Mar-22, 30th Jun-22, 30th Sep-22, 31st Dec-22, 31st Mar-23, 30th Jun-23, 30th Sep-23, and 31st Dec-23 (if unavailable please provide the most recent data available - please give date)?

Note: We are referring to in-house LA foster carer households excluding kinship carer households.

3. How many Looked After Children (LAC) has the Local Authority funded in foster care placements, with in-house foster carers, with Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) carers, with Kinship (family and friends) foster carers and in IFA therapeutic fostering placements, as at 31st Mar-22, 30th Jun-22, 30th Sep-22, 31st Dec-22, 31st Mar-23, 30th Jun-23 and 30th Sep-23 and 31st Dec-23 (if unavailable please provide the most recent data available - please give date)?

Note: Therapeutic foster care is also known as therapy foster care, multidimensional treatment foster care, specialist foster care, treatment foster (family) care and family-based treatment. It is designed for young people who cannot live at home, usually due to behavioural problems including chronic delinquency.

4. What are the average weekly fees that the local authority would pay to foster care providers (in-house, IFAs and IFA therapeutic fostering placements) for the following age groups in 2021/22, 2022/23 and year to date in 2023/24?

Note: By average weekly fee we mean skill fee element only, excluding agency fee etc, and the fee paid to foster carers per week, not the fostering allowance.

- a. 0 to 4
- b. 5 to 10
- c. 11 to 15
- e. 16 to 18

5. Please provide a list of Independent Fostering Agencies used by the Council. Please provide data for the last financial year 2022/23 (if available); if not, the most recent data available – please give date.

- a. Please provide the total number of placements with each agency.
 - b. Please provide total expenditure with each agency.
6. What is the gross total expenditure (excluding fostering staff team costs) on fostering services for Looked After Children? Please provide actual figures for financial years 2019/20 to 2022/23, as well as budgeted expenditure for 2023/24.

Response:

Please see attached spread sheet for information in response to your request.

Section 40 Refusal Notice:

Some information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The information requested is third party personal data (i.e. personal data about someone other than you). Section 40 (2) provides that information which is third party personal data is exempt from disclosure if one of three conditions is satisfied. In this case the following condition applies:

- Disclosure would contravene one of the data protection principles

Some information you have requested for question 5 in relation to the total number of placements with each agency has been withheld as this information is personal data and has not been provided in this case as City of Doncaster Council believes that the release of such low numbers to responses could specifically lead to the identification of a child or Foster Carer(s) who otherwise would not expect their personal information to be released into the public domain.

I hope that this information is useful to you.

City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £46.00 to respond to this request for information.

Reviewing any decisions made:

If you are not happy with this reply you can ask us to review our response. To do this write to us within 40 working days of receiving your response at the address below or email FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk

If you do not agree with the review decision you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision about our compliance or otherwise with the Freedom of Information legislation. Contact details for the ICO are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. www.ico.org.uk Telephone 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy McMahon

Freedom of Information Officer
Corporate Resources
City of Doncaster Council

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