

Freedom of Information Request

If possible, please could you give me figures for the last 5 years, but where this is not available, please can you give me the data for whichever years it may be available for.

1. What is the H&SCT spend on looked after children for each of the last 5 years? (or whichever years you have this data for).

| | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2017/18 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2018/19 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2019/20 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2020/21 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2021/22 £m |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total Expenditure (Direct Costs) | 16.7 | 17.2 | 18.2 | 19.5 | 22.3 |

2. Can you break the spend on looked after children down to show the specific spend on residential children's homes (excluding respite overnight care/residential for disabled children) for the same period?

| | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2017/18 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2018/19 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2019/20 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2020/21 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2021/22 £m |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total Residential Children's Homes (Direct Costs) | 6.6 | 6.7 | 6.9 | 7.2 | 7.8 |

3. How many residential children’s homes do you have within your Trust geographical area?

5 (Previously 6 but provider closed down in 2021).

4. Can you break the number of children’s homes down to show how many children’s homes are delivered by each type of provider i.e. Voluntary organisation, Public, Private Sector organisation – or other if applicable?

Currently 5 all delivered by the Trust.

5. Can you break down the numbers of children being looked after in each of the provider type above for the same period?

Up to 30 at any one time.

6. Can you break down the above spend on residential children’s homes for the same period based on the provider type i.e. Voluntary organisations / Trust / Private Sector organisations?

| | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2017/18 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2018/19 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2019/20 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2020/21 £m | EXPENDITURE YEAR 2021/22 £m |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Trust Residential Children's Homes (Direct Costs) | 5.8 | 6.6 | 6.9 | 7.2 | 7.8 |
| Private Sector Organisations | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Residential Children's Homes (Direct Costs) | 6.6 | 6.7 | 6.9 | 7.2 | 7.8 |

7. Can you give me the range of weekly rates for children’s homes based on provider type as above?

The average weekly rate for Private Sector Organisation was £7,046 per week.

8. How many children and young people have been looked after in children’s homes outside of your Trust’s geographical area for each of the last 5 years? (or whichever years you have this data for).

The Northern Health and Social Care Trust (“the Trust”) cannot provide this information due to the small numbers involved i.e. less than 10, as this could be potentially matched up with other information to allow individuals to be identified. The Trust therefore considers this information exempt under Section 40(2)(3) of the Freedom of Information Act.

9. How many children/young people have been placed in residential children’s homes within your Trust area who are from another Trust area and how many from outside Northern Ireland for the same period as above? (Can you detail the location they are from?)

The Northern Health and Social Care Trust (“the Trust”) cannot provide this information due to the small numbers involved i.e. less than 10, as this could be potentially matched up with other information to allow individuals to be identified. The Trust therefore considers this information exempt under Section 40(2)(3) of the Freedom of Information Act.

None from outside of NI.

10. How many looked after children/young from your Trust area are looked after in residential children’s homes outside of your Trust area and where are they placed?

The Northern Health and Social Care Trust (“the Trust”) cannot provide this information due to the small numbers involved i.e. less than 10, as this could be potentially matched up with other information to allow individuals to be identified. The Trust therefore considers this information exempt under Section 40(2)(3) of the Freedom of Information Act. Placements are in Republic of Ireland.