CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
C O U N C I L

Response to Request for Information

Reference   FOI 0000271
Date   06 July 2016

Children taken into Care

Request:
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

In relation to the first ten cases of children that were taken into care (either interim or full) by your authority in the 2016 calendar year please provide me with the following information in connection with each of these cases.

1.   The sex of the child?
2.   The age of the child?
3.   If any of the following factors are recorded in the papers you hold on the case as having been a factor in the council's decision to take the child into care: (a) proximity to a dangerous dog (b) the obesity of the child, (c) a concern the child spends too much time playing computer games and/or on the internet, (d) the child's home environment is unhealthy due to cigarette smoke, (e) the parents do not care adequately for the child because they spend too much time watching television and/or on the internet or (f) that the child has poor dental hygiene.

NOTE: Please note that if you feel providing an answer to Q.1 and Q.2 with Q3 would breach S.40 then I would request that you ONLY answer Q.3. If you decide to take that option I would ask you to justify your decision as I reserve my right to appeal against it.

NOTE: If scrutinizing the papers for the first ten care cases would breach the cost limit under FoI then please limit the search to just the first five cases.

In response to your request we have looked at the first 10 LAC to come into care (defined as Interim or Full Care Orders) in 2016. The table for Q1 and Q2 is below:

Crosstab	Gender		
Age at LAC start	Female	Male	Grand Total
0	4	4	8
10	0	1	1
12	0	1	1
Grand Total	4	6	10

In response to Question 3, we have looked at the standard "Factors Identified" categories and at the Assessment nearest the time the child was taken into care, which give a text synopsis of reasons why the child was admitted. None of the factors mentioned in 3a to 3f were found in any of the 10 cases.