

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001580
Date 17 October 2017

EU National Children in Care

Request:

I apply under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act for the following information about children and young people from European countries cared for or supported by your Local Authority.

To be specific, I am seeking information relating to children and young people who are:

- Up to the age of 25;
- Who are from countries in the EU or the EEA, who are in the care of, or supported by, the Local Authority
- To avoid confusion, the EU/EEA states are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden.
- This would include children and young people who have been taken into care because of child protection concerns and/or where private/public family law proceedings are underway. They may have been placed in foster care or other forms of accommodation, or they may be detained but are still being financed by your own Local Authority. They may or may not have an allocated Social Worker.

With reference to our responses marked in blue below, please note that the data provided is from the financial year April 2016 to March 2017.

Request - In 2016:

1. How many European national children under the age of 16 were being supported / accommodated by your Local Authority?
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2. How many European national children between the ages of 16 to 18 were being supported / accommodated by your Local Authority?
In respect of your above question relating to information regarding children between the ages of 16 and 18, the Council considers that to reveal this

information would compromise the safety and security of the small number of children placed and therefore this meets the definition for personal data set out in Section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 ("DPA") as:

"data which relate to a living individual who can be identified - (a) from those data, or (b) from those data and other information which is in the possession of, or is likely to come into the possession of, the data controller and includes any expression of opinion about the individual and any indication of the intentions of the data controller or any other person in respect of the individual"

The Council thus considers that the requested information is caught by the exemption to disclosure contained in Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOI") and the related first condition of Section 40 (3).

To explain further, a disclosure made under the provisions of FOI is judged to be a disclosure to the wider world and here the Council must consider disclosure of personal information in line with the provisions of the DPA.

Any disclosure of this information would be judged in this instance to breach DPA principles, notably the first principle – that of fair and lawful processing and the second principle-that of processing for specified and not-incompatible purposes. Details will therefore not be provided in this instance.

3. How many European national 18 - 25 year olds were being supported / accommodated by your Local Authority?
Please see our response to question 2 above.

If possible, please also provide the following information:

4. What are the predominant nationalities of the children identified at (1) & (2) above? For example please provide us with the top five nationalities
Lithuanian, Romanian, Portuguese and Polish
5. What are the predominant nationalities of the 18-25 year identified at (3) above? For example please provide us with the top five nationalities
Lithuanian and Czech