

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 002211
Date 24 April 2018

Missing Looked After Children in Care

Request:

Missing looked after children in care FOI Request

Under the FOIA, please can you provide me with responses to the following:

- 1 For the last four financial years (including April 2017 - March 31st 2018), on how many occasions did children in care ('looked after children') go missing?
[2014/2015 = Data not available](#)
[2015/2016 = 180](#)
[2016/2017 = 194](#)
[2017/2018 = 237](#)

- 2 For the last financial year (April 2017- March 2018), of the occasions where children in care went missing and were then found, how many were found to have been:
 - a) hurt or harmed physically while they were missing
 - b) sexually assaulted or exploited while they were missing
 - c) involved in the sale of drugs while they were missing
 - d) engaged in criminal activities during their absence[This information is recorded qualitatively in interviews and is not in a reportable format.](#)

Please include all known incidences, even if a child experienced more than one e.g. where a child was both hurt or harmed physically and sexually assaulted, please included occasions as figures for both part a and part b.

Most of this information will be produced by Independent Return interviews which are conducted after children in care go missing. The findings are shared with the local authority when produced by a different authority on their behalf. Please see this link for more information:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/208528/Statutory_guidance_on_children_who_run_away_or_go_missing_from_home_or_care_consultation_-_final.pdf

- 3 For the last four financial years (including April 2017 - March 31st 2018), how many children in care were unaccompanied asylum seeking children?
[2014/2015 = 4](#)

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

2015/2016 = 10

2016/2017 = 11

2017/2018 = 10

- 4 For the last four financial years (including April 2017 - March 31st 2018), on how many occasions did unaccompanied asylum seeking children go missing?

2014/2015 = Data not available

2015/2016 = 0

2016/2017 = 3

2017/2018 = 0