

Request

We are seeking to understand the way in which your foster carers are being paid in your service. The department which would know this information would be within social services in your fostering team. The information we require is:

For your mainstream foster carer population (general/unconnected carers) the basic weekly allowances paid for 2023/24 per age bracket for all age bands. NOT including any fee/reward element for foster carers.

Please detail any other allowances paid for children living in mainstream foster care in addition to their weekly allowance, for example religious festival, holiday, birthday, other. Please detail the amount paid and the frequency foster carers can receive these.

Please detail any additional allowances or fees paid to for children with additional support needs or disabilities.

Your current fee/reward structure for mainstream foster carers (NB this is different to allowances for the child). Please include:

- i) Details of the levels/bands for carers and how much you pay per week at each level/band.
- ii) The number of mainstream foster carers on each level/band, including those that receive no fee on top of the child's allowance.

For your kinship foster carer population (connected carers) the basic weekly allowances paid for 2023/24 per age bracket for all age bands. NOT including any fee/reward element for foster carers.

Please detail any other allowances paid for children living in kinship foster care in addition to their weekly allowance, for example religious festival, holiday, birthday, other. Please detail the amount paid and the frequency foster carers can receive these.

Your current fee/reward structure for kinship foster carers (NB this is different to allowances for the child). Please include:

- i) Details of the levels/bands for carers and how much you pay per week at each level/band.
- ii) The number of kinship foster carers on each level/band, including those that receive no fee on top of the child's allowance.

Your 2023-24 weekly allowances for former foster carers looking after young people in 18+ Staying Put arrangements, broken down by year 1, year 2, and year 3 if necessary.

Your 2023-24 weekly fee payments for former foster carers looking after young people in 18+ Staying Put arrangements, broken down by year 1, year 2, and year 3 if necessary.

Response

For mainstream and family and friends carers:

- i) please see attached rates including additional payments.
- ii) Numbers of carers at each band

No mainstream foster carers are paid at tier 1 i.e a fee with no reward element.

29 mainstream foster carers are paid at tier 2.

174 mainstream foster carers are paid at tier 3.

4 mainstream foster carers are paid at tier 4.

25 kinship foster carers are paid at tier 1.

47 kinship foster carers are paid at tier 2.

4 kinship foster carers are paid at tier 3.

Weekly allowance for Staying Put is £150+ young person's contribution.