

Please provide the following figures relating to a) the use of unregulated provision for Looked After Children and also b) the cost of Children's Home placements.

UNREGULATED PROVISION USE

Date: 14.11.2023

1. What is the total number of Looked After Children (LAC) aged 16 and 17-years-old who are currently placed in unregulated provision? Please provide the number of these individuals in such provision at the point this request is answered. Registration became mandatory in October. 1

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-bans-unregulated-accommodation-for-young-people-in-care#:~:text=The%20measures%20mean%20that%20from,homes%20with%20no%20meaningful%20oversight>

2. What is the total number of LAC under the age of 16-years-old who are currently placed in unregulated provision? Directors of Children's Services typically authorise this directly. Please also provide the age of the youngest child placed in such provision. 1 (14 years old)

COST OF ALL LAC PLACEMENTS

3. What is the highest weekly cost paid to a provider in the period April 1st 2022 to date for an LAC placement in a children's home? Please provide any mitigating detail (e.g. 3-to-1 care) if you believe it to be relevant to the high cost. £20, 867.92 for 2:1 support plus bed block fee as unable to place another young person alongside.
4. What is the highest annual cost paid in the 2022/2023 financial year for an individual LAC's placement in children's home(s)? Please provide the total annual cost if the child has been placed in multiple placements. £461,583.30