



We are requesting data for the period between 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

1. How many individual children were reported missing within your local authority? 482 individual children (who were the responsibility of Wigan Council).
2. How many total incidents were reported of children going missing within your local authority? 1397 incidents
3. How many children were looked after by the local authority between 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024? 980 wigan resident children have been looked after at some point during the requested period.
4. How many individual looked after children went missing? 92 children in care
5. How many incidents were reported of looked after children going missing? 509 incidents
6. How many return interviews were offered to children following a missing incident? 1397 Interviews were offered within the requested period.
7. How many return interviews were completed following a missing incident? Of the 1397 return home interviews offered:

610 interview were accepted
502 interviews were declined.
285 incidents already has another Missing Episode open.
8. How many of these return interviews were completed within 72 hours of the child returning from the missing episode? 85%
9. Who provides return interviews to children following a missing incident in your area? Please select:
 - Social workers (this could be the child's social worker)
 - Dedicated team or individual within the local authority
 - Youth worker
 - An independent service commissioned by the local authority
 - Other✓

Please provide any detail possible about who is delivering return interviews in your area

Wigan Council REACH - Complex Safeguarding team members

10. Do you provide or commission any follow-up support for children and young people following an RHI? Yes/No

If yes please give details.

11. Please tell us more about your return interview service. Would you like to see any changes in national guidance? What are the barriers to effective provision? What is working well in your area?

Yes. A Missing From Home Team is embedded within the Complex Safeguarding Team.

Changes – none identified.

Barriers – if police have done a safe & well check then the child/family may not also want a RHI. Sometimes unclear for a child/family what the difference is. Working well – in house team so able to closely monitor performance & quality. Also, then close links with exploitation workers. Also, their base is in the police station so supports close working with police colleagues.