



**REQUEST 17598**

1. How many 16 and 17 year old looked after children is your local authority responsible for currently?
2. How many 16 and 17 year old looked after children in your local authority are currently placed out of area?
3. How many 16 and 17 year old looked after children were accommodated in spot purchased placements (off framework/contracted arrangements) in the current year (24/25 financial year)?
4. What was the cost of placements/supported accommodation for 16 and 17 year olds per week in the current year (24/25 financial year)?
  - a. lowest cost
  - b. highest cost
  - c. average cost
5. Are there sufficient placements in your local authority area for 16 and 17 year old looked after children who have a high level of complex needs?

**RESPONSE**

1. As of 12.03.2025, there are 159 16 & 17 year old children looked after. This includes children placed with parents, placed in internal/external (commissioned) fostering placements, kinship carers, residential homes, supported accommodation and supported lodgings.
2. As of 12.03.2025, 62 16 & 17 year old children looked after are placed out of Wigan borough.
3. 42 16 & 17 year old children looked after were placed under spot purchase arrangements during the 24/25 financial year.
4.

Lowest	213.00
Highest	21810.66
Average	2358.58
5. We are unable to respond fully to this question as we need a clearer definition of 'high level of complex needs'. However we would be interested in having conversations with providers of Ofsted registered children's homes for LD or SEMH but Wigan has sufficient resource for EBD homes.