

I would appreciate your assistance by providing the following brief information regarding the commissioning and placement of Looked After Children aged under 16 into residential homes from your local authority:

 Name, direct email address, and direct dial contact number for the manager responsible for placements of Looked After Children into residential homes. The Director Prevention Early Help & Sufficiency, Ann Clarkson, Ann.Clarkson@wigan.gov.uk, 01942 486000, has responsibility for placements of Looked After Children into residential homes.

 General generic departmental email address used specifically for receiving communication with providers for referrals to source placements of Looked After Children aged under 16. placementsearches@wigan.gov.uk

3. Does your local authority currently use a specific framework for residential placements for Looked After Children aged under 16? If yes, please provide the framework's name and the email address or precise details of whom to contact for information on joining this framework.

Wigan LA uses Placements Northwest framework for residential placements.

Details on joining the framework can be found here:

Residential FPS Provider information | NWADCS

4. Does your local authority make direct placements with residential providers, or are placements exclusively commissioned through a framework or placement portal? If exclusively via a framework or portal, please specify which one is used?

Yes, Wigan LA commissions placements with residential providers through spot purchase as well as using the above mentioned framework.

5. How many children under 17 years old (inclusive) are currently placed in Ofsted residential children's homes by the local authority on spot purchase arrangements?

As of 10.04.2025 there are 25 children aged 17 and below placed in Ofsted registered residential homes under spot purchase agreements.