



REQUEST 18040

I am writing to request information regarding children and young people under your care or known to your services — particularly those classed as being in crisis and presenting with significant behavioural or mental health challenges.

Specifically, I would like to request the following:

1. Children in Crisis Placements

Please provide the number of children and young people (under 18) under your care or known to your Trust in the last 12 months who:

- Have been classed as being in crisis due to mental health or behavioural issues (e.g. anxiety, depression, detachment disorders, aggression, communication difficulties linked to trauma or neglect)
- Required specialist care placements with enhanced staffing ratios or 1:1 / 2:1 supervision

2. High-Cost Care

Of those identified above, how many have required placements (e.g. Tier 4 CAMHS beds or bespoke community packages) with weekly costs in the following ranges:

- £16,000
- £17,000
- £18,000
- £19,000
- £20,000
- £24,000–£25,000
- £26,000–£30,000
- £31,000–£35,000
- £36,000–£40,000
- £40,000+

Please also include:

- A brief description of the care setting (e.g. in-patient CAMHS unit, out-of-area residential placement)
- The reason(s) for the high cost (e.g. staffing levels, specialist services, 24/7 supervision)

RESPONSE

We cannot collect this information systematically as we do not have a field for recording 'crisis' however a physical review of the information we have available has provided the following for all children who are or have been in our care in the last 12 months.

18 young people

We have a classified specialist placements as those where we pay for additional support in terms of:

1:1 - 1
2:1 -11
3:1 - 2
T4 Mental Health – 1
Secure – 3

Children in our care in the last 12 months who fit within the pricing bracket is 2 only

2 YP at 20k plus but under £24k – High levels of staffing solo provision, 3:1, complex needs. One in area and one out of area.

3. Exploitation and Safeguarding

The number of children under your care who have been identified as at risk of:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| • Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) | 17 |
| • Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) | 11 |
| • County Lines involvement | n/a |
| • Other criminal involvement | 4 |

4. Overlap Between High-Cost Care and Exploitation/Safeguarding Risks

Of the children identified in Question 2 (High-Cost Care), how many are also identified in Question 3 as being at risk of:

- CCE
- CSE
- County Lines involvement
- Other criminal involvement

Please provide:

- A breakdown by type of risk
- A brief, anonymised summary of any cases illustrating how exploitation risks have contributed to high-cost placements
- Any definitions or criteria your local authority uses to classify children as “at risk”
- If this data is recorded jointly with other statutory services (e.g. Health, Police), please indicate where the data is held or whether joint figures are available

Of the 2 children neither fit in these categories.

5. Neurodiversity and Learning Difficulties

Of the children identified in Questions 2 and 3, how many:

- Have a diagnosed Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD), such as dyslexia or dyspraxia
- Are recognised as having neurodiverse conditions, including but not limited to autism, ADHD, or sensory processing differences (e.g. hypersensitivity, hyposensitivity, sensory seeking or avoidance behaviours)
- Are currently undergoing assessment for a neurodevelopmental or learning-related diagnosis

Please provide a breakdown showing:

- How many children fall into each of the three categories above
- How many are awaiting formal diagnosis

Both children were diagnosed as having neurodiverse conditions.