



Please provide the following data regarding young fathers who were identified as parents by Children's Services (including Child in Need and Child Protection cases) in the period 2023-2025. Specifically:

1. The numbers of fathers involved with Children's Services who were aged:
 - a. under 16 years
 - b. 16 - 20 years
 - c. 21 - 25 years
2. The age of these young fathers at the time of their first involvement with Children's Services in their role as a father.

This information is not recorded in a reportable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/3244) set out the rules in relation to the cost limit (otherwise called the "appropriate limit"). These Regulations are published by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) and are viewable on their web site from this link:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf

The Regulations set out the cost limit for Government departments and for other public authorities. For local government, Regulation 3 states that the cost limit is £450 and Regulation 4(4) states that the prescribed hourly rate is £25. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA.

I am satisfied the cost limit applies to your request and will explain why this is the case

Between 01/01/2023 and 15/12/2025 there are 8992 records. To provide the information requested would entail a manual check of each of these records which would be far in excess of the 18 hours officer time stipulated in the act.

3. All guidance, policy and strategy documents pertaining to the period 2023 – 2025 that specifically address and/or guide Children's Services' involvement with young fathers at strategic and operational levels.

[Working with Dads and Male Caregivers](#)