



## **REQUEST 19300**

If this full request goes over the cost limit, please answer the questions in numerical order until the cost limit is reached. Please may you provide me with:

1. The total number of child relinquishment requests per year for each of the last ten years.  
For the avoidance of doubt, this refers to instances where birth or adoptive parents contacted the local authority requesting that Children's Social Care Services assume care responsibility for a child.
2. For the calendar years 2023 and 2024, and for 2025 if available:
  - a. The number of referrals received by Children's Social Care Services where domestic abuse was recorded as a factor; and
  - b. If 2025 figures are incomplete, please provide whatever data is currently available and specify the date range that the data covers.
3. For each of the last five years, please provide either:
  - a. The annual staff (or ideally just social worker, if these figures exist) sickness or absence rate already held by the authority (for example, percentage of working time lost), or
  - b. If no such percentage is routinely recorded, the total number of working days lost to sickness/absence and the total number of contracted working days for Children's Social Care Services staff in each year.

Please provide whichever of the above is held in recorded form.

4. The average caseload, and the average number of children (if different) held by qualified social care workers in:
  - a. Frontline child protection assessment teams; and
  - b. Safeguarding teams for each of the last five years.

## **RESPONSE**

1.

Year	No.
2015	Less than 5
2016	0
2017	0
2018	Less than 5
2019	0
2020	Less than 5
2021	0
2022	Less than 5
2023	Less than 5
2024	Less than 5
2025	0

2.

a.

Year	No.
2023	1783
2024	1493
2025	1547

b. See above table

3.

Year	Working Days Lost to Sickness Absence	No of Average Contracted Working Days
01/04/2020-31/03/2021	1784	36140
01/04/2021-31/03/2022	1822	38480
01/04/2022-31/03/2023	2253	39780
01/04/2023-31/03/2024	3177.5	41080
01/04/2024-31/03/2025	3144.86	44460

4.

a. Please note this is Caseload per Headcount not FTE.

Year	As at 31st March	Average Caseload
20/21	2021	17.7
21/22	2022	24.5
22/23	2023	22.7
23/24	2024	17.5
24/25	2025	17.1

b. Please note this is Caseload per Headcount not FTE.

Year	As at 31st March	Average Caseload
20/21	2021	15.8
21/22	2022	19.8
22/23	2023	16.4
23/24	2024	14.8
24/25	2025	14.5