



My Ref: FOI4936
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings are as follows: -

**Please provide answers to the following questions broken down into age groups:
(If the information is not recorded in these age groups, please provide the
information per age year, for example: under 1 years; 2 years; 3 years etc)**

- Under 1
- 1-4 years
- 5-9 years
- 10-15 years
- 16 years +

Please provide the information by month for the last full 5 years.

**(If the data cannot be provided by month please preferable provide it by calendar
year or if not, by financial year.)**

Question 1:

**How many Section 20s (voluntary accommodation for a looked after child under
Section 20 of the Children Act 1989) have been registered for a child leaving
adoption in your local authority area? (Either into care, a kinship placement or
family/friend placement).**

Section 20 arrangements are not usually used for children and young people as a long term care arrangement, unless the young people are over the age of 16. If a child or young person is accommodated under Section 20 the LA holds no parental responsibility. Children subject to section 20 would not be considered on a adoption pathway and as such measurements of exiting into kinship or family/friend placement is not measured as a output.

Question 2:

**How many Section 47s (child protection investigations initiated under Section 47
of the Children Act 1989) have been registered in relation to an adopted child in
your local authority area?**

Section 47 data is collated considering outcome of the investigation, there is no mechanism to break this down into children specifically within an adoptive placement.

Question 3:

How many Section 31 care orders (under the Children Act of 1989) have been registered in relation to an adopted child in your local authority area? (Care orders where an adoptive placement has broken down).

A Section 31 Care Order is applied for at the same time the LA asks permission for a Placement Order, which allows the adoptive family search to begin. If a plan of adoption is not successful then there is no further application for a Care Order as one will have already been granted what would need to happen is for the placement order to be revoked.

In the last 12 months 2024 to current date 2025 Barnsley LA have not had any adoption placement breakdowns.

In the year 2023- 2024 there was one adoption placement breakdown recorded.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Information Requests Via email.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC
Information Requests Team
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG
email: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: -

Customer Services Team
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

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