



My Ref: FOI 5706
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: -

This request relates to data held by the local authority concerning children known to children’s services who have been identified as victims of, or at risk of, criminal exploitation and/or sexual exploitation, including where exploitation is linked to organised criminal groups, county lines, or gangs, where recorded.

For the purposes of this request, please interpret “child” as anyone under the age of 18.

Requested Information

1) Children identified as at risk of or victims of exploitation

For each of the following categories, please provide the number of individual children recorded in each financial year:

- **Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)**
- **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**
- **Both CCE and CSE**

Please provide this data for each of the following financial years:

- **2019/20**
- **2020/21**
- **2021/22**
- **2022/23**
- **2023/24**
- **2024/25**
- **2025/26**

If your authority uses a different reporting period (calendar year, quarterly etc.), please provide the closest equivalent.

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

Be aware that the CCE assessment factor was not captured prior to 2022/2023

2) Exploitation flags, categories, or indicators used

Please confirm whether your children's services case management system contains any of the following structured fields/flags (tick yes/no and provide field names if possible):

- **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) flag/marker**
- **Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) flag/marker**
- **Modern slavery / trafficking flag**
- **County Lines flag**
- **Gang association flag**
- **Organised crime group (OCG) involvement flag**
- **Missing episodes linked to exploitation marker**
- **"Contextual safeguarding" indicator**
- **Exploitation risk assessment score/level (e.g. low/medium/high)**

If yes, please provide the names of the relevant fields/categories as they appear in your system.

Please see attached spreadsheet.

3) Gang / organised crime involvement

Where recorded, for each year listed above, please provide the number of children identified as:

- **Exploited by or associated with a gang**
- **Exploited by or associated with an organised criminal group (OCG)**
- **Exploited through county lines activity**

If you do not record this information in a structured way, please state this.

OCG data not held by the council, this is utilised through partnership work with Police. Data not currently held in a reportable format, development ongoing to capture this in a reportable format moving forward.

4) Location / context of exploitation

If your records contain structured data on the setting/context of exploitation, please provide the number of children (per year) where exploitation was recorded as occurring in any of the following contexts:

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- Online exploitation
- Exploitation in public places (parks, streets, shopping areas etc.)
- Exploitation in private addresses (including “trap houses”)
- Hotel / temporary accommodation exploitation
- School-related exploitation / PRU
- Care placement-related exploitation (including residential care)

If your authority uses different categories, please provide your closest equivalents.

Data not currently held in a reportable format, development ongoing to capture this in a reportable format.

5) Gender breakdown (if available)

For each year above, please provide a breakdown (for CCE, CSE, and both) by:

- Sex or gender (as recorded)

Please see the attached spreadsheet

6) Age breakdown (if available)

- Age group (e.g. under 10 / 10–12 / 13–15 / 16–17, or your nearest available)

If this would risk identifying individuals due to small numbers, please redact or suppress small number categories and provide the remaining totals.

Please see the attached spreadsheet

Format requested

Please provide the information in an Excel or CSV format, where possible, with financial years listed in ascending order, vertically down the column.

If any part of this request exceeds the FOI cost limit, please provide advice and assistance under Section 16 of the Act by indicating which part(s) of the request are most costly and how the request could be refined

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:

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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,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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