

FOI Reference Number: FOI/217/1819

Date: 02/08/2018

Request:

Please release the following information relating to looked after children in the care of your authority for the period 1 January 2017 to 31st December 2017:

1. The total number of looked after children in the care of your authority that have been:
 - a. Identified as having been trafficked or a victim of modern slavery - including, but not limited to those identified through the National Referral Mechanism.
 - b. Suspected of having been a victim of trafficking or modern slavery , if not included in a.
 - c. Identified as an unaccompanied asylum seeking child (UASC) or a separated child .

2. The total number of looked after children in the care of your authority:
 - a. Identified or suspected as having been trafficked/victim of modern slavery and that have gone missing or absent.
 - b. Identified as an UASC or separated child and that have gone missing or absent.

3. The total number of individual incidents (which could involve the same child on more than one occasion) of looked after children in the care of your authority:
 - a. Identified or suspected as having been trafficked/victim of modern slavery and that have gone missing or absent.
 - b. Identified as an UASC or separated child and that have gone missing or absent.

4. The total number of looked after children in the care of your authority that are still missing or absent (including those that subsequently turned 18 without being found) that were identified or suspected as having been trafficked or identified as an UASC or separated child.
5. For all of the above please provide a breakdown of these numbers by gender and nationality of the child (e.g. British, Vietnamese, etc.) If identification is a concern due to small numbers involved please give the total figures and specify whether the child is British / an EU national / non EU national. For Q3 & Q4, please add the length of time the child was missing during each incident.

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 31/07/2018.

Please find below Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to the total number of looked after children in the care of your authority.

Please note that in Northern Ireland district councils are not responsible for the provision of social care.

Please contact the Northern Health and Social Care Trust who should be able to help you with your request.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of part of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Chief Executive at the Braid Ballymena Town Hall, 1-29 Bridge Street, Ballymena, BT43 5EJ.

Please remember to quote the reference number FOI/218/1819 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliff House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Please be advised that Mid and East Antrim Borough Council may release the response to this information request into the public domain via our website at <https://www.midandeantrim.gov.uk/>.

If we publish our response to your request, your personal data will be removed to protect your privacy.