

Nicola Hesketh  
Project and Information Coordinator

**Our Ref: FOI5376/NH/02**  
**Please ask for: Nicola Hesketh**  
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[Name Redacted]  
The Children's Society  
Edward Rudolph House  
Margery Street  
London  
WC1X 0JL

31<sup>st</sup> August 2018

Dear [Name Redacted]

### **Freedom of Information – Request for Information**

With regards to your recent enquiry for information held by the Authority under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, please find the information you requested below with reference in the box to your original enquiry for clarity where multiple answers are required.

#### **Details of Your Request**

*I apply under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the following information about care leavers through the 12 questions making up this request on the following themes:*

- *Numbers remaining in contact with the local authority post-21.*
  - *Incidences of homelessness for care leavers*
  - *Receipt of Discretionary Housing Payments*
  - *The application of Shared Accommodation Rate of Local Housing Allowance*
- With the data provided from this Freedom of Information request, we plan to make the case to the Department for Work and Pensions and the Department for Education to delay the application of the Shared Accommodation Rate to care leavers from 22, until 25. This is a policy, which central government are keeping 'under review'.*

#### **The response to your request as follows:**

To Note:

- We don't hold data on the number of care leavers paid a DHP – it's not a necessary statistic for the DWP
- We do not collect figures relating to the specific age of care leavers when they approach the service

**1. As of 1 April 2018, how many care leavers are living in your area?**

Aged 18-21	Aged 22-25

2. Since 1 April 2018, how many care leavers aged 22-25 have got in touch to request the services of a Personal Advisor or support for the following purposes?

Please note that if the response to a question is 0, please mark as such. If you do not hold or collect data, please mark as X.

	Number
Total number of care leavers aged 22-25 who got back in touch	
Number of care leavers aged 22-25 who got back in touch because of housing difficulties or homelessness	

3. How many care leavers aged 18-21 presented as homeless to the council in each of the following years?

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
6	8	4

4. How many care leavers aged 22-25 presented as homeless to the council in each of the following years?

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18

5. How many care leavers aged 18-21 received discretionary housing payments in each of the following years?

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18

6. What was the value of discretionary housing payments paid to care leavers aged 18-21 in each of the following years?

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
£	£	£

7. How many care leavers aged 22-25 received discretionary housing payments in each of the following years?

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18

8. What was the value of discretionary housing payments paid to care leavers aged 22-25 in each of the following years?

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
£	£	£

**9. How many care leavers aged 18-21 receiving discretionary housing payment (question 5), were living in the private rented sector in each of the following years?**

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18

**10. How many care leavers aged 22-25 receiving discretionary housing payment (question 7), were living in the private rented sector in each of the following years?**

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18

**11. What was the total amount of Discretionary housing payment made by the council in each of the following years?**

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<b>£92771</b>	<b>£120655</b>	<b>£159093</b>

**12. How many care leavers aged 22-25 that received Discretionary Housing Benefit had the shared accommodation rate limit applied to their housing benefit entitlement in each of the following years?**

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18

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Tamworth Borough Council,  
Marmion House,  
Lichfield Street,  
Tamworth,  
B79 7BZ

Details of Tamworth Borough Council's internal review and complaints procedure are attached, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Hesketh  
Project and Information Coordinator