

FOI 3832

2nd July 2026

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

The amount of children in care in the Southern HSC Trust who have had an unmet need in their care placement between January 2026 and 8 June 2026.

Response:

During the period January 2026 to 8 June 2026 there were less than 5 children who had an unmet need in relation to their care placement.

The Trust has a legal duty to protect patient confidentiality, in line with this duty the figure <5 has been provided where figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has taken into account the small geographical area which the Trust serves. In addition the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and is published on the Trust website.

S 40 (2) (third party information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied to exempt the redacted information from disclosure. The Trust does not consider the disclosure of the redacted information to be fair to the individuals concerned as there is the potential risk of identification of an individual(s) which they would not expect, and which would therefore breach the fairness element of the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018.

The number of children in the Southern HSC Trust who have been placed in care outside of their preferred Trust between January 2026 and 8 June 2026.

Response:

The Southern Trust had 19 children placed with kinship carers and foster carers residing outside of the Trust geographical area between January 2026 and June 2026. These placements are however supported and managed by the Southern Trust. Please note it is always preferable to place children in Kinship care (even outside of Trust Boundaries) where appropriate to do so.

There were no children placed in residential care outside of the Southern Trust between January 2026 and 8 June 2026

The amount of children in the Southern HSC Trust placed in residential homes between January 2026 and 8 June 2026, and the amount of those under the age of 10.

Response:

Total number of children in SHSCT placed within residential homes between Jan and June 2026 is 22 children. None of these children are under age 10.

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