

6 April 2023

Foster Care Statistics

1. **In the financial year 2021/22 what was the outturn for provided foster care?**

£11.668m

2. **In the financial year 2021/22 what was the outturn for purchased foster care?**

£6.097m

- b. **The average proportion of foster care placements in the financial year 2021/22, in percentage terms, that were purchased from independent agencies?**

As of end of March 2022, 17% of all foster placements were purchased from the Independent Agency providers.

3. **What is the total number of looked after children?**

As at 28 February 2023, we have 1035 Looked After children in Belfast Health and Social Care Trust.

4. **The number of looked after children who are being accommodated via purchased fostering service,**

As at 28 February 2023, we have 160 children accommodated in purchased fostering provision.

- b. **The exact number of children in each of the contracts held by a purchased fostering service, specifying the agencies used.**

As at 28 February 2023, Belfast Trust accommodates as per the following breakdown -

- KinderCare: 79 children
- Foster care Associates: 49 children
- Barnardos: 24 children
- Action for Children: 8 children

5. **The number of looked after children who are being accommodated via the local authority provider**

As at 28 February 2023, there are 875 children accommodated by Belfast Trust 'in-Trust' provision.

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6. The number of looked after children who are placed outside of the local authority

As at March 2021, there were 12 Looked After Children placed outside Northern Ireland.

7. The average number of registered Foster carers who receive a fee from the local authority provider between 14th December 2019 and 14th December 2022, broken down by years.

The reference period will be September – September

- September 2019: 30
- September 2020: 38
- September 2021: 38
- September 2022: 64

8. The number of foster carers de-registered from the local authority provider between 14th December 2019 and 14th December 2022, broken down by years.

The reference period will be September – September

- September 2019: 30
- September 2020: 47
- September 2021: 50
- September 2022: 30