

19 October 2022

Inquiry with regard to Traveller & Roma Children

1. The number of all children referred to Social Work Children & Families services split by ethnicity and region from 2012 until the present date

The total number of children referred since 01/01/2012 to date broken down by ethnicity group is based on a count of children, if a child has been referred more than once, they are counted only once.

Ethnicity	Number of children
ANY OTHER ETHNIC GROUP	164
BANGLADESHI	27
BLACK AFRICAN	353
BLACK CARRIBEAN	3
BLACK OTHER	91
CHINESE	99
INDIAN	51
IRISH TRAVELLER	86
MIXED ETHNIC GROUP	253
NOT COMPLETED	8597
NOT STATED	9915
PAKISTANI	9
ROMA TRAVELLER	78
WHITE	15074
OTHER ETHNIC GROUP	1394
Grand Total	36194

2. The number of all children subject to child protection enquiries split by ethnicity and region from 2012 until the present date.

The total number of children subject to child protection enquiries, split by ethnicity since 2012 until current date 11/10/2022. If child has had more than one enquiry, they are counted only once.

Ethnicity	Number of children
ANY OTHER ETHNIC GROUP	45
BANGLADESHI	7
BLACK AFRICAN	87
BLACK OTHER	36
CHINESE	31
INDIAN	16
IRISH TRAVELLER	43

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Ethnicity	Number of children
MIXED ETHNIC GROUP	122
NOT COMPLETED	86
NOT STATED	662
PAKISTANI	7
ROMA TRAVELLER	14
-WHITE	3529
OTHER ETHNIC GROUP	89
Grand Total	4774

3. The number of all disabled children being supported by Social Work Children & Families services split by ethnicity and per region 2012 until the present date.

Belfast Trust does not centrally collate a breakdown of the number of disabled children split by ethnicity. To collate this information would take more than 18 hours.

The Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as Belfast Trust. This represents the cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

4. The number of all children living in foster care, residential care or in adoptive families split by ethnicity and region from 2012 until the present date.

Please refer to the attached Excel spreadsheet, which provides the information requested on the basis of Belfast Health and Social Care Trust data returns relating to children in care, which is reported on a yearly basis in accordance with reporting arrangements to the Department of health.

The Excel spreadsheet provides an overview of data March 2012 – March 2022.

The information provided relates to children in the care of the Trust, living in foster care and residential care and children living at home with parents on a Care Order. The information provided is based on information held as of the 31 March for each year from 2012 to March 2022 broken down by ethnicity for children living in the care of the Trust at that time.

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This information also includes those children who have been placed with adoptive families, but **not** yet legally adopted. The Trust does not centrally collate information relating the ethnicity of children who have been adopted. To collate this information would take more than 18 hours.

The Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12 (as per response at Question 3).

5. The number of Traveller and Roma children referred to each individual Health and Social Care Trust from 2012 until the present date.

Please find attached spreadsheet of data collated.

This is a subset of the information at Question 1 and is based on a count of children. If a child has been referred more than once, they are counted only once.

6. The number of Traveller and Roma children subject to child protection enquiries in each individual Health and Social Care Trust from 2012 until the present date.

Please find attached spreadsheet of data collated.

This is a subset of the information at Question 2 and is based on a count of children. If a child has been referred more than once, they are counted only once.

7. The number of disabled Traveller and Roma children being supported in each individual Health and Social Care Trust from 2012 until the present date.

Belfast Trust does not centrally collate a breakdown of the number of disabled children split by ethnicity. To collate this information would take more than 18 hours.

The Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12 (as per response at Question 3).

8. The number of Traveller and Roma children living in foster care, residential care or in adoptive families in each individual Health and Social Care Trust from 2012 until the present date.

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Please refer to the attached Excel spreadsheet of data March 2012 to March 2022. This is a subset of the information at Question 4, which provides the information requested on the basis of Belfast Health and Social Care Trust data returns relating to children in care, which is reported on a yearly basis in accordance with reporting arrangements to the Department of health.

The information provided relates to children in the care of the Trust, living in foster care and residential care and children living at home with parents on a Care Order. The information provided is based on information held as of 31 March for each year from 2012 to March 22 broken down by the number of Traveller and Roma children living in the care of the Trust at that time.

This information also includes those children who have been placed with adoptive families, but **not** yet legally adopted. The Trust does not centrally collate information relating the ethnicity of children who have been adopted. To collate this information would take more than 18 hours.

The Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12 (as per response at Question 3).