Dear Sir/Madam

As part of the ESRC-funded study ‘Becoming Adult: Conceptions of futures and wellbeing among young people subject to immigration control in the UK (ES/L009226/1)’, we are contacting all Local Authorities to gather data concerning the outcomes of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and young people under their responsibility and are respectfully requesting replies under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We would be grateful if you could send responses to the questions below as soon as possible. The study is led by Dr Elaine Chase (Principal Investigator, University of Oxford) and Dr Nando Sigona (Co-Investigator, University of Birmingham). For further details see https://www.spi.ox.ac.uk/research/details/becoming-adult-conceptions-of-futures.html

Yours faithfully,

Dr Nando Sigona

Senior Lecturer and Deputy Director of Institute for Research into Superdiversity, University of Birmingham

For correspondence, please contact Rachel Humphris, Research Associate, School of Social Policy, University of Birmingham

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07557758368

Please could you provide the following information **for each of the last three** years ending 31st March (that is 2012/2013; 2013/2014 and 2014/2015. Please note that we are asking about both unaccompanied asylum seeking children (under 18 years) in questions 1-4; and about unaccompanied care leavers (post 18 years) in questions 5-8)

If you are unable to provide data on any of the questions below please indicate this by inserting ‘NO DATA AVAILABLE’.

**Looked after unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (under 18 years)**

1. The number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) that were looked after by this Local Authority:

For each year (where possible) please state the profile of the above in terms of:

1. Gender
2. Nationality
3. Legal/immigration status on 31st March in each year (e.g. no decision made as yet; granted asylum; granted temporary protection as a child (Discretionary Leave / UASC leave) refused asylum with no grant of leave)
4. Age on 31st March in each year
5. The number of UASC who were placed in this LA by other Local Authorities
6. The number of UASC placed by this Local Authority place in other LAs.
7. The number of UASCs who went ‘missing’[[1]](#footnote-1) from the care of the local authority.

How long is a UASC untraceable (the local authority has no knowledge of where they are) before they are considered to be ‘missing’?

Of those who have gone ‘missing’ from local authority care, please state their profile in terms of:

1. Gender
2. Nationality
3. Legal/immigration status at the point that ‘missing’ was recorded
4. Age at the point missing was recorded

**Former UASC care leavers**

For each of the same three years please can you provide information about:

1. The number of former UASC care leavers who were supported under leaving care legislation by this local authority.

Please state the profile of the above in terms of:

1. Gender
2. Nationality
3. Legal/immigration status on 31st March in each year
4. Age on 31st March in each year
5. Whether or not enrolled in higher education
6. Whether or not enrolled in further education
7. The number of former UASC care leavers who went ‘missing’ whilst still entitled to leaving care services from the local authority.

How long is a former UASC care leaver untraceable (the local authority has no knowledge of where they are) before they are considered to be ‘missing’?

Please state the profile of the above in terms of:

1. Gender
2. Nationality
3. Legal/immigration status at the point that ‘missing’ was recorded
4. Age at the point that ‘missing’ was recorded
5. The number (if any) of appeal rights exhausted care leavers who were supported by the local authority beyond grant funding from the Home Office.
6. The number (if any) of human rights assessments made for care leavers with appeal rights exhausted.
7. The number (if any) of care leavers with appeal rights exhausted who continued to receive support from the Local Authority following human rights assessment.

Your correspondence

It would help us enormously if you could provide information in accessible formats such as MS Word (.doc) or MS Excel (.xls) or equivalent.

Please don’t hesitate to contact our Research Associate Rachel Humphris ([r.humphris@bham.ac.uk](mailto:r.humphris@bham.ac.uk)) if you hold the information in a different format, use different terminology or the request is not clear.

Thank you very much for your time and help.

1. By ‘missing’ we mean that they have interrupted all contact with the local authority and local authority has no knowledge of where they are. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)