

20 October 2022

Dear

### **ATISN 16691 – Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children**

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information received on 27 September 2022 relating to Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) (FOIA). You requested the following:

1. The number of Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children referred to Social Work Children & Families services in Wales and per region from 2012 until the present date
2. The number of Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children subject to child protection enquiries in each region of Wales from 2012 until the present date.
3. The number of disabled Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children being supported by Social Work Children & Families services in Wales and per region 2012 until the present date.
4. The number of Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children living in foster care, residential care or in adoptive families in each in Wales and per region from 2012 until the present date.

In addition, you emailed us on 28 September (10:11) to requested further information as followed:

5. The number of all children referred to Social Work Children & Families services in Wales split by age, gender, ethnicity and region from 2012 until the present date
6. The number of all subject to child protection enquiries in Wales split age, gender, ethnicity and region from 2012 until the present date.
7. The number of all disabled children being supported by Social Work Children & Families services in Wales split by age, gender, ethnicity and region 2012 until the present date.
8. The number of all children living in foster care, residential care or in adoptive families in Wales split age, gender, ethnicity and region from 2012 until the present date.

### **Our Response**

Welsh Government does not hold all the information you are seeking but have endeavoured to respond to each of your requests below:

1. Welsh Government does not have any data on referrals. We have provided the number of Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children with an open case at 31 March (where the case had been open for at least 3 months) for 2012 to 2016. **Please refer to attached spreadsheet CIN\_Gypsy\_Roma**
2. Welsh Government does not have any data on child protection enquiries. We have provided the number of Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children with an open case at 31 March (where the case had been open for at least 3 months) who were on the Child Protection Register at 31 March for 2012 to 2016. **Please refer to attached spreadsheet CIN\_Gypsy\_Roma**

3. We have provided the number of Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children with an open case at 31 March (where the case had been open for at least 3 months) who had a disability at 31 March for 2012 to 2016. **Please refer to attached spreadsheet CIN\_Gypsy\_Roma**
4. No data is being provided due to measures taken to minimise the risk of unwanted disclosure of personal data.

It is only possible to identify Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children through the Children in Need (CiN) Census. The CiN Census captures children who have an open case at 31 March where the case had been open for at least 3 months (i.e. from 1 January of the reporting year). The Census ran from 2009-10 to 2015-16, with a census date of 31 March each year. Given the request is for 2012 onwards, we have provided data for 2011-12 to 2015-16. From April 2016, the CiN Census was replaced by the Children Receiving Care and Support (CRCS) Census and captured children with a care and support plan at 31 March that had been in place for at least three months.

The CRCS doesn't collect as detailed a breakdown of ethnicity so we're unable to identify Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children within this data. However, changes have been made to ethnicity data codes for 2022-23 that will allow us to identify Gypsy, Irish Traveller and Roma children within the CRCS Census going forward.

Data has been provided at Wales level and all figures have been rounded to the nearest five; where there are less than three children in any group, the actual number has been suppressed, and replaced by the symbol \*.

5. Welsh government does not have any data on referrals. We have published data on children with open cases / care and support plans at 31 March. These are children whom local authority social services are providing care and support to (not all referrals will lead to provision of care and support).

For 31 March 2012 to 31 March 2016, the number of children with an open case at 31 March (where the case had been open for at least 3 months) can be found on StatsWales: [Children in need by local authority and disability \(gov.wales\)](https://statswales.gov.wales/children-in-need-by-local-authority-and-disability)

For 31 March 2017 to 31 March 2021, the number of children with a care and support plan at 31 March (where the plan had been in place for at least 3 months) can be found on StatsWales: [Children receiving care and support by local authority and disability \(gov.wales\)](https://statswales.gov.wales/children-receiving-care-and-support-by-local-authority-and-disability)

6. Welsh Government does not have any data on child protection enquiries. We have published data on children on the child protection register. The Child Protection Register records all children in the area for whom there are unresolved child protection issues and who are currently the subject of an inter-agency protection plan. Children who were looked after and on the Child Protection Register are included in the children looked after figures.

For 31 March 2012 to 31 March 2016, the number of children with an open case at 31 March (where the case had been open for at least 3 months) who were on the Child Protection Register at 31 March can be found on StatsWales: <https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MMFE>

For 31 March 2017 to 31 March 2021, the number of children with a care and support plan at 31 March (where the plan had been in place for at least 3 months) who were on the Child Protection Register at 31 March can be found on StatsWales: <https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MMEz>

7. For 31 March 2012 to 31 March 2016, the number of children with an open case at 31 March (where the case had been open for at least 3 months) who had a disability at 31 March can be found on StatsWales: [Children in need by local authority and disability \(gov.wales\)](#)

For 31 March 2017 to 31 March 2021, the number of children with a care and support plan at 31 March (where the plan had been in place for at least 3 months) who had a disability at 31 March can be found on StatsWales: [Children receiving care and support by local authority and disability \(gov.wales\)](#)

8. We have provided the number of children looked after in foster placements, awaiting adoption and residing in care homes at 31 March by gender, age band and ethnic origin. For 31 March 2012 to 2016, this is based on data collected through the SSDA903 collection. For 31 March 2017 to 2021, this is based on the Looked After Children Census data collection. **See the attached SSDA 2012 to 2016 Data and LAC 2017 to 2021 Data spreadsheets**

The Children in Need (CiN) Census captures children who have an open case at 31 March where the case had been open for at least 3 months (i.e. from 1 January of the reporting year). The Census ran from 2009-10 to 2015-16, with a census date of 31 March each year. Given the request is for 2012 onwards, we have provided data for 2011-12 to 2015-16. From April 2016, the CiN Census was replaced by the Children Receiving Care and Support (CRCS) Census and captured children with a care and support plan at 31 March that had been in place for at least three months.

Data not already published has been provided at Wales level and all figures have been rounded to the nearest five; where there are less than five children in any group, the actual number has been suppressed, and replaced by the symbol \*.

### **Next steps**

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,  
Welsh Government,  
Cathays Park,  
Cardiff,  
CF10 3NQ

or Email: [Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales](mailto:Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales)

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,  
Wycliffe House,  
Water Lane,  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire,  
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,