

Councillor Victoria Cusworth – Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

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5th February 2025

Councillor Paul Thorp Elected Member

Via email: paul.thorp@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Thorp

Question to Council – Wednesday 15th January 2025

Thank you for your supplementary question submitted to Council on 15th January 2025. You acknowledged that there were circumstances in which out of borough placements were required, and you asked how many of the 180 children could be brought back to Rotherham if the right facilities were in place.

I can advise that children and young people who are placed out of area have a variety of different care needs. Some of these will be in settled placements and have established links in their respective areas and as such we are not actively seeking for them to move to a placement provision closer to Rotherham. That said, where children returning to the local area would be in their best interest – specifically those placed in external residential care – they are tracked and monitored by senior leaders. We are growing our in-house provision to be able to offer wider placement choice according to children and young people's needs.

I hope that my response is helpful.

Yours sincerely

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CIIr Victoria Cusworth

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services

Labour and Co-op | Kilnhurst and Swinton East Ward

Peer Mentor and Member Peer | Local Government Association Labour Group