**ECRC Freedom of Information Request**

**October 2018**

**Out of area placements**

1. How are Return Home Interviews (RHIs) delivered to looked after children who are placed outside of your local authority area? **(please tick)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * 1. RHIs are completed by the third sector organisation that also deliver them to children within our local authority area |  |
| * 1. RHIs are completed by someone in our children’s services but never their social worker |  |
| * 1. RHIs are completed by someone in our children’s services and that could be their social worker | X |
| * 1. RHIs are completed by the young persons’ social worker | X |
| * 1. We spot purchase from the host local authority’s RHI service | X |
| * 1. We spot purchase from another service | X |
| * 1. We do not offer RHIs to this group |  |
| * 1. Combination of the above      1. If yes please provide further information: |  |
| * 1. Other      1. If yes please provide further information: |  |

1. a) How many children in the care of your local authority were placed out of area between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018?
   1. How many children who were placed out of area went missing between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018?
   2. Of that figure how many were offered a RHI?
   3. How many received a RHI?
2. Does your local authority offer RHIs to looked-after children from other local authorities who are placed in your local authority area? **(please tick)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Yes |  |
| 1. No |  |
| 1. On a case-by-case basis    * 1. If so please give more detail: | X |

*NCC monitor all missing episodes for OLA children and ensure that reports are shared with the child’s Social Worker, Team Manager, IRO and colleague with responsibility for missing children from the placing LA. Whilst it is the host authority’s responsibility to ensure RHI’s are completed, we have a sold service available for OLA’s to spot purchase. We do monitor the number of missing episodes and escalate with the host authority should we not feel that actions are being taken. Where OLA LAC missing episodes are persistent, those children and young people will be considered at our monthly Multi-Agency meeting, chaired by the Police Missing Team to consider any local risk management strategies required.*

1. If you selected ‘yes’ or ‘case-by-case’ to the previous question please could you tell us which agency is responsible for delivering RHIs to this group of young people?
   1. A Third sector agency **No**
   2. A team based within your local authority **Yes**
   3. We provide a spot purchasing service **Yes**
2. a) How many looked after children and young people were placed in your local authority area by other local authorities between 31 March 2017 and 1 April 2018?
   1. How many of these children and young people received a RHI?
3. Please tell us more about your return interview service for children placed out of area. Would you like to see any changes in national guidance? What are the barriers to effective provision? What is working well in your area?

*We feel that Nottinghamshire County Council offer a comprehensive service to young people by treating the definitions of “missing – no apparent risk” and “missing” the same, therefore having a response to all reports to the Police.*

*A barrier to effective provision can be where the placing authority do not provide us with basic details about a child’s risk of going missing and plans in place to complete RHI’s.*