

62141 Costs of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC)

I request the following information:

Current number of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) in the council's care.

Based on the assumption that "in the council's care" refers to Looked After Children, there are currently 75.

Total annual cost of supporting UASC (accommodation, social work, education, legal support, and health).

Average cost per UASC per year.

Many costs associated with UASC are common to all Looked After Children. Therefore, we cannot extract UASC costs from our financial reporting systems independently from the general Looked After population.

Year-by-year increase in UASC numbers since 2022.

Please refer to the table below which also includes the decrease in the number of UASC Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC) in 2025/26.

(As at 31st March)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Number of LAAC UASCs	15	19	65	65	47
Change	Not applicable	+4	+46	No change	-18