

64611 Child Sexual and Criminal Exploitation

For the last five complete financial years, 2021/22 to 2025/26, and broken down by financial year where possible, please provide:

The total number of looked-after children within Edinburgh City Council.

2021/22 – 1,377

2022/23 – 1,297

2023/24 – 1,227

2024/25 – 1,163

2025/26 – 1,168

Of those looked-after children:

Number identified as victims of CSE.

Number identified as victims of CCE.

Number assessed as being at risk of CSE.

Number assessed as being at risk of CCE.

Number recorded as suspected victims of CSE or CCE.

Number referred to specialist CSE or CCE services.

If Edinburgh City Council uses different terminology or recording categories, please provide the closest equivalent information held.

This level of detail is not recorded in an extractable format on our case management system. We can provide the number of children who have had an Inter-agency Referral Discussion where the alleged abuse category is CSE or CCE, and the number of children who have been named on the child protection register with the abuse category CSE or CCE. This is provided below:

Concerns	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Child Sexual Exploitation	30	32	51	71	28
Impact On/Abuse of the Child Identified - Criminal Exploitation	<5	<5	<5	9	13

Numbers fewer than 5 have not been provided as, given the small numbers involved, this could lead to an individual being identified.

Total number of missing-from-care incidents.

Number of individual looked-after children reported missing.

Number reported missing on more than one occasion.

Highest number of missing episodes recorded for any one child during the requested period.

Number of children who remained missing and had not been located when annual statistics were compiled.

Please provide the number of missing episodes recorded as involving, suspected to involve, or believed to involve:

Child Sexual Exploitation.

Child Criminal Exploitation.

Child trafficking.

County Lines activity.

Organised criminal exploitation.

Modern slavery.

Number of looked-after children referred to Police Scotland because of CSE concerns.

Number referred because of CCE concerns.

Number discussed through Multi-Agency Child Protection Procedures or equivalent arrangements where exploitation was a concern.

[This detail is not recorded in an extractable format on our case management system.](#)

Please provide copies or links to:

Current CSE policies.

Current CCE policies.

Missing-from-care protocols.

Risk assessment or screening tools used to identify exploitation.

Guidance issued to social workers concerning CSE or CCE.

[Child protection guidance is available on the Council's website.](#)

Please provide copies of, or details of, any internal audits, serious case reviews, learning reviews, performance reports or quality assurance reports produced during the last five years concerning:

CSE.

CCE.

Missing looked-after children.

Child trafficking.

Organised exploitation.

[All audits, reviews and reports are available from the Edinburgh Child Protection Committee webpage.](#)

Whether social work staff receive mandatory training on CSE and CCE.

Date of the most recent relevant training package.

Percentage of frontline staff who have completed the relevant training.

The City of Edinburgh Council does not require social work colleagues to undertake mandatory training specifically related to exploitation. Instead, our colleagues can optionally access the 'Exploitation of Children and Young People' training module delivered by Barnardo's. Exploitation training is also embedded within a further eight optional learning events, aimed at a range of relevant workforces.