

FosterWiki®



THE 2024 INDEPENDENT FOSTER CARERS SURVEY

Question 10 Additional Comments

I. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to The Independent Foster Carer's Survey 2024 powered by FosterWiki Ltd.

We appreciate all the Foster Carers/Carers' time in completing this survey as it is your voice that needs to be heard to help raise the outcomes for the children and young people we care for.

The survey was completed by current or carers who have left fostering in the last 5 years.

The question was as follows:

“In the past year have your children had more than one social worker or a period without any social worker allocated?”

2348 people answered this question and left 437 additional comment responses.

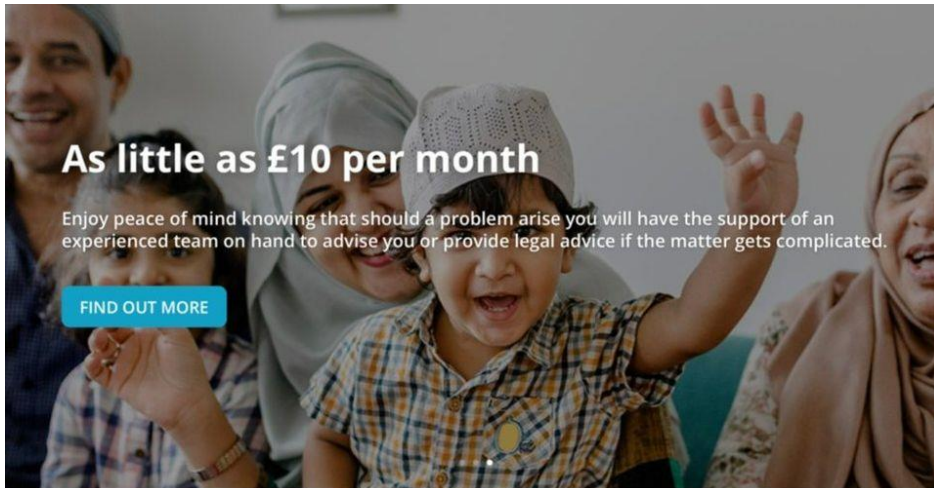


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2. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

1. Turnover of SW is why too much then they all do and say different things.
2. Thankfully, the YP that I have had some consistency in this past year.
3. Happens all the time very disruptive to the child and the carer.
4. Early 2023 6 SWs in a short space of time.
5. Three SWs in six months and two changes of team due to SW shortage.
6. It's constant.
7. Period without allocated social worker. Plus 3 changes in social worker.
8. This has been an unusual year in this regard.
9. But the CSW the girls have now is very good and try's her best.
10. First social worker went sick and new one appointment who doesn't drive and is terrified of dogs. This creates issues during home visits.
11. 12 in 7 years.
12. There is absolutely no continuity for us or the person supported.
13. In six years our youngest has had six. he's just now been allocated a new social worker after just beginning to build the trust with him. Everything goes back to square one now building trust.
14. Our eldest has had seven with the latest since May last year.
15. One of our young people has moved to a specialised team, with a new Social Worker, which is an advantage to him. Our other young person got a new social worker around 6 months ago. They had a carefully managed transition, as the local authority are very aware of "The Promise" and are trying to put this into practice in real terms.
16. One child had 4 SW before he was 2.
17. Due to maternity leave.
18. They have known 10 SW in 9 years. 5 CSW. 5 SSW all wanting to be their best friend with promises of staying.
19. During an adoption transition we had 4 in three months. Generally, children over two years never had one longer than 6 months.
20. Very briefly. The CSW moved on when I reported her for not visiting the child but they got a new CSW asap because the baby was transitioning home.
21. We have had a number of social workers with our children due to illness and moving on.
22. Lots of changes in children's social workers.
23. Happens often.
24. 4 social workers in 4 years.
25. Went two years without one, a young child I had in placement had four different ones in the 1st two years.
26. We have just had a new social worker allocated, I'm gutted that the old social worker's contact wasn't renewed, she was the best social worker I have worked with.
27. One of my child is on their 5th social worker within a year.
28. I only do out of hours or emergencies due to a previous issue.
29. Period of COVID lockdown no SW no support.

30. 3 within a year.
31. This one is funny. There are always changes!
32. 4 in 1 year, one didn't even make contact or knew who he was when I called them.
33. 3 LASWs & 2 IROs in a year for one of our cyps.
34. Children had 6 sw in 1 year. Cheshire east.
35. On average 2 per year.
36. But in the past I have.
37. Although we have had three SSW's in three years and child has had two.
38. Many times. Help us just not there.
39. Change of CSW (desperately wanted and needed) so was good.
40. This is in regards to the LA not the IFA.
41. 3 social workers in 7 months.
42. 3 different social workers within the past year.
43. 3 moving on to number 4.
44. 3 children in placement 1- has had 3 SW in 2023 2- has had 3 SW in 2023 3- has had 4 SW in 2023
45. On 2nd social worker and now she's leaving this has been since Christmas.
46. Really upset my YP. Two changes of SW.
47. Noting no placement for 18 months. Our children had 4 SWs in 3 years.
48. Had more than one SW, also without a SW at key moments for the YP, due to SW sickness.
SW often did not turn up to meetings, without any prior apologies.
49. My two, one term have had about 8 or 9 SW in 11 years.
50. We had a period when we had an online one from North England for us in Wales.



<https://nupfc.com/>

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FosterWiki New Foster Carers Toolkit



FosterWiki Fostering Teenagers Toolkit



FosterWiki Toolkit for New Social Workers



FosterWiki Toolkit for Top Ten Tips

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