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14 March 2024

The Rt Hon. the Lord Warner
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

Sir Martyn Oliver
His Majesty's Chief Inspector

Sent by email to: warnern@parliament.uk

Dear Lord Warner

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NUMBER HL2775

To ask His Majesty's Government how many children's homes there were in England at the end of (1) 2021, (2) 2022, and (3) 2023; and how many of those in each year were secure homes.

Your recent Parliamentary Question has been passed to me for response as His Majesty's Chief Inspector for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills.

Ofsted regularly publishes official statistics on children's social care, which are available online and include data on the number of children's homes in England.¹ I have included the relevant information from this data below.

Ofsted's end of year data refers to 31 March. The table below shows the number of children's homes in England as at 31 March 2021, 2022 and 2023, and the number of those that were secure children's homes in each year. I have also included our latest data as at 31 August 2023, which is published online in Ofsted's Annual Report 2022/23 data.²

¹ 'Children's social care statistics', Ofsted, November 2023;
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/childrens-social-care-statistics>.

² 'Ofsted Annual Report 2022/23', Ofsted, November 2023;
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/ofsted-annual-report-202223>.

Year	Children's homes (all types)	Of which secure children's homes
31 March 2021	2,706	13
31 March 2022	2,873	13
31 March 2023	3,119	13
31 August 2023	3,290	13

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sir Martyn Oliver".

Sir Martyn Oliver
His Majesty's Chief Inspector