



UNCLASSIFIED

Resources Directorate

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Our reference: FOI/Req00162

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Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for your recent request for information. Your request has been considered under the above legislation. You have requested the following information:

1. *A snapshot of the number of households currently considered statutorily overcrowded in your authority as of June 30, 2015 or the nearest available date. Please use the 'room standard' as defined in part 10 of the Housing Act 1985. If data for June 30 is not possible to retrieve please specify the date used.*

Response: 576

Coventry Homefinder award priority based on the number of bedrooms a family will require for household members to be appropriately accommodated. We do not use the statutory overcrowding 'room standards' to assess this as we do not include other rooms available as Sleeping accommodation, therefore the figures are based on those households where they are severely overcrowded by two bedrooms or more.

2. A snapshot or estimate of the number of households in your authority as of June 30 2015 or the nearest available date. If data for June 30 is not possible to retrieve please specify the date used. Please specify whether this is an estimate or a precise figure.

Response: On 01/07/2015 there were 13891 'active' households registered on Coventry Homefinder. This information is supplied from the Local Authority Choice Based Lettings System and therefore only provides information based on

those who have registered for social housing. The system reports on live data and not historical data. This information was taken on 01/07/2015

Information relating to the total number of households in Coventry can be found at [http://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/14420/headline_statistics - november 2014](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/14420/headline_statistics_-_november_2014)

- 3 a) The figures for the top ten households in your authority with the highest absolute numbers of people in them
- b) For these ten households, the first half of the postcode (e.g. CR3,M4) where they are situated

Response: 3a) Coventry Homefinder presently has 306 applicants requiring a property of 4-6 bedrooms. The system only provides information for the main applicant and not the household members.

In response to Question 3b) following careful consideration, the Council regrets to inform you that it has decided not to disclose this information and has applied exemption Section 12. Section 12 of the Act exempts Public Authorities from providing information where the estimated cost of compliance with the request exceeds the appropriate limit. Any estimate must be made in accordance with the limits set in fees regulations made under Section 12 (5) of the Act.

These Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244 Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations) allow for a refusal where the cost of compliance, for local authorities such as the Council, would exceed £450. As a guide, staff time to identify and extract this information is charged at a rate of £25 per hour. A substantial amount of work, including interrogation, reviewing and checking of each individual application to determine household size and post code location will need to be undertaken

Therefore a fee will be payable before we can provide you with the information. The fee in this case is **£637.50 (£25 x 25.5 hours)** - please see the schedule below explaining how this was calculated. If the actual cost turns out to be less than the estimate, the balance will be returned to you.

DISBURSEMENTS	CHARGE MADE
COST OF COMPLYING WITH THE REQUEST	£637.50 (£25 x 25.30 hours) charged at a rate of £25 per hour of officer time estimated to be spent identifying, retrieving, reviewing and extracting requested information

Payment can be made using the online payment facility on the [Council web site](#).

To do this, go to 'Pay Online' and select - **Freedom of Information request. Please insert your request reference number (2016652)** in the 'Account' box. While the legislation allows the Council 20 working days to respond to your request from the date of its receipt, this time limit is suspended until we receive payment.

As soon as we receive your payment we will begin work on your request (please be aware that payments take at least three working days from receipt to clear). Alternatively, if you do not want to pay online, please make cheques payable to **Coventry City Council** and send to the address given below. If we do not receive your payment by 28th October 2015, we will consider your request closed and no further action will be taken by the Council.

You are free to use this information for your own purposes. If you wish to use the information for other purposes, you will need to contact us.

Should you be unhappy with the outcome or handling of your request, please write to the address below within 40 working days of the date of this letter:

Council House, Room 21a
Lower Ground Floor
Earl Street, Coventry.
CV1 5RR
infogov@coventry.gov

If having done this you are still dissatisfied, you have the right to contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Adrienne Bellingeri
Head of Customer Services