

## Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam.

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: REQ06308

Thank you for your request for information relating to B&B accommodation and housing benefit.

You have requested the following information:

Please tell me how many tenants claimed housing benefit for bed and breakfast (B&B) accommodations in the financial year 2018/2019.

474.

In addition, I would like to know the total value of the housing benefit granted in the 2018/19 financial year for B&B accommodations and the number of people between which this amount was divided.

£4,174,052.08 - divided by 474 tenants.

Please tell me the three most expensive amounts paid per single night of accommodation in B&B accommodation, and tell me the names and addresses of the B&Bs in which those costs were incurred.

- 1 £424.90 Allesley Hotel, Birmingham Rd, Coventry, CV5 9GT.
- 2 £283.13 Beechwood Hotel, Sandpits Lane, Coventry, CV6 2FR.
- 3 £234.32

We are unable to provide the address for number 3 as this property relates to a privately rented bed and breakfast accommodation. Temporary accommodation provided does not always include meals/food and therefore it cannot be described as bed and breakfast accommodation.

Therefore, this information is exempt under section 40 (2) of the FOIA. This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the Data Protection Act.

This has been done as the Council considers that this information meets the definition for personal data set out in Section 3(2) and 3(3) of the Data Protection Act 2018 ("DPA") as:

- (2) "personal data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual (subject to subsection (14)(c))"
- (3) "Identifiable living individual" means a living individual who can be identified, directly or

indirectly, in particular by reference to -

- (a) an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data or an online identifier, or
- (b) one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of the individual."

The Council thus considers that the requested information is caught by the exemption to disclosure contained in Section 40 (2) of the FOI Act and the related first condition of Section 40 (3).

This is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest.

Finally, please tell me the longest period of time a claimant was homed in B&B accommodation, the cost per night, the total cost and the name and address of the B&B.

Allesley Hotel, cost per night £61.75, total cost £22,539.4.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: <a href="mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk">infogov@coventry.gov.uk</a>

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email <a href="mailto:casework@ico.org.uk">casework@ico.org.uk</a>.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours sincerely

**Information Governance**