

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI326191182

Thank you for your request for information relating to Homelessness provision since March 2021.

Your request and our responses are shown below:

I would like information about the support the Councils is offering to homeless people. Please can you tell me since 11 March 2021:

1. How many homeless people has the Council provided with accommodation (permanent or temporary)?

Between 11th March 2021 and 15th April 2021 (date that the request was received):

126 households (including single people, couples and families with children) were provided with temporary accommodation under the duties in Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996.

2 individuals were provided with emergency accommodation under the 'Everyone In' programme (The Government's response to Covid-19, providing emergency accommodation to all rough sleepers).

7 households have accessed private rented properties under the 'Let's Rent Coventry' scheme (details available here: www.coventry.gov.uk/letsrentcoventry) and 2 have accessed private rented properties through a partnership with Cornerstone.

39 households accepted an offer of accommodation under the Prevention Duty (S195(8)(a)

Suitable accommodation and reasonable prospect of being available for at least 6 months).

91 households accepted an offer of accommodation under the Relief Duty (S189(7)(a) Suitable accommodation and reasonable prospect of being available for at least 6 months).

48 households accepted an offer of accommodation under the Main Housing Duty (Part 6 offer of social housing).

Please note that the Council does not own any permanent social housing, after all former council housing stock was transferred to Whitefriars Housing Group (now Citizen) in 2000. The figures above relating to permanent housing refer to an offer of accommodation under the duties in Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996, but the housing is not provided directly by the Council itself.

2. How many people with no recourse to public funds has the Council provided with accommodation (permanent or temporary)?

No households with 'No Recourse to Public Funds' (NRPF) have been provided with temporary or permanent accommodation under the duties set out in Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 (the Council's homelessness duties) as they are not eligible for assistance under this legislation.

However, under the 'Everyone In' programme (the government's response to protecting rough sleepers during the Covid-19 pandemic), rough sleepers with NRPF have been provided with emergency accommodation. Whilst a number of rough sleepers with NRPF were accommodated during the 'Everyone In' initiative, no new placements were made for anyone with NRPF between 11th March 2021 and 15th April 2021.

3. How many homeless people has the Council refused to provide with accommodation?

If a household that has made a homelessness application requests temporary accommodation, the Council assesses whether it has a duty to provide it. For households where it is found that there is no duty to provide temporary accommodation, we are unable to extract this information in a report as this will be recorded in the notes section of each case file.

In addition, four households that approached the Council for homelessness assistance between 11th March 2021 and 15th April 2021 were found to be 'not eligible' under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 and were therefore not provided with temporary or permanent accommodation under these duties.

Anyone found rough sleeping in Coventry during this period was offered accommodation.

4. How many people with no recourse to public funds has the Council refused to provide with accommodation?

Four households that approached the Council for homelessness assistance between 11th March 2021 and 15th April 2021 were found to be 'not eligible' under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 and were therefore not provided with temporary or permanent accommodation under these duties.

However, as stated in the response to Q2, rough sleepers with NRPF were accommodated under the 'Everyone In' initiative. Whilst a number of rough sleepers with NRPF were accommodated during the 'Everyone In' initiative, no new placements were made for anyone with NRPF between 11th March 2021 and 15th April 2021.

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For information, we publish a variety of information such as: FOI/EIR Disclosure Log, Publication Scheme, Facts about Coventry and Open Data 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: <u>infogov@coventry.gov.uk</u>

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 <u>icocasework@ico.org.uk</u>.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance