

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI355436606

Thank you for your request for information relating to Afghan locally employed staff relocation scheme.

You have requested the following information:

I am seeking information regarding the Afghan Locally Employed Staff Relocation Scheme. I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information.

1. Have you been asked to take part in the Scheme?

Yes.

2. Have you agreed to take part in the Scheme?

Yes.

If you have agreed to take part in the Scheme, please provide me with the following

information:

- 3. How many a) individuals b) households have you committed to relocating?
- a. Between 100-150 individuals however please note this is currently under review.
- b. We were not required to give a commitment regarding the number of households.
- 4. How many a) individuals b) households have you relocated to date?
- a. Four.
- b. 23 as of 25 August 2021.
- 5. Of those who you have committed to relocating, how many are currently residing in temporary accommodation? If possible, please provide a breakdown of the types of temporary accommodation being used (e.g. MOD houses)

Once properties are available families are matched to available properties. We would envisage that all families we take will be in temporary accommodation by the time we have properties ready.

6. How many a) 1-bedroom; b) 2-bedroom; c) 3-bedroom; d) 4-bedroom or more, houses/flats have you agreed to provide?

The scheme does not work in this way. We have committed to a number of individuals and are procuring a mix of properties to meet the needs identified by the Home Office.

7. Do you currently provide English for Speakers of Other languages (ESOL) support for speakers of Farsi and/or Pashto?

Yes, but ESOL is not generally provided on the basis of the mother tongue of the individual, although in the early stages of language support having Farsi/Pashto or Dari interpreters is useful. We provide ESOL suitable for all non-English speaking clients.

8. Are you commissioning support through a specialist organisation (e.g. Refugee Council)?

No, Coventry City Council and a local partnership of Voluntary Sector Providers has been involved in various Relocation and Resettlement programmes since 2014.

9. What engagement have you undertaken with existing Afghan families in your local authority area who have previously taken part in the Scheme?

Coventry has been part of the Afghan Locally Engaged Scheme since 2015, we have close liaison with a number of former UK Armed Forces interpreters and a further Afghan community that we connect with from time to time. The current 2021 refresh of this scheme is now referred to as ARAP – Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy.

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 and 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: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

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 icocasework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance