

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI362841633

Thank you for your request for information relating to Priority Need for Housing.

You have requested the following information:

Clarification received:

I'm referring to homelessness applications (with 'priority need' defined with reference to section 189 of the Housing Act 1996)

1. In each of the last three years, how many applications have been made for priority housing where the applicant has stated they are at risk of a) domestic violence and b) other forms of violence

The table below shows the reason for the loss of the last settled home for homelessness applications made in each of the last three years, based on the date that the application was made.

Reason for loss of last settled home	1st Oct 2018 to 30th Sept 2019	1st Oct 2019 to 30th Sept 2020	1st Oct 2020 to 30th Sept 2021	Total
Domestic abuse	238	267	284	789

Other types of				
violence or				
harassment	79	109	170	358
Total	317	376	454	1147

2. In the last three years, how many applications for priority need housing have been granted where the applicant is at risk of a) domestic violence and b) other forms of violence

Of the applications made during the last three years, the tables below show the outcomes in terms of the duties owed. Please note that one household may have been owed several duties (for example, prevention duty followed by relief duty if prevention was not successful). Please also note that priority need is not assessed until the Main Duty decision stage, so this shows all prevention and relief cases where domestic abuse or other violence were stated as the main reason for the loss of the last settled home.

Domestic violence/abuse	Prevention duty owed	Relief Duty Owed	Main Duty Owed
1st Oct 2018 to 30th			
Sept 2019	21	173	77
1st Oct 2019 to 30th			
Sept 2020	38	210	104
1st Oct 2020 to 30th			
Sept 2021	41	216	106

Other types of violence	Prevention duty owed	Relief Duty Owed	Main Duty Owed
1st Oct 2018 to 30th			
Sept 2019	8	54	20
1st Oct 2019 to 30th			
Sept 2020	13	71	42
1st Oct 2020 to 30th			
Sept 2021	25	129	66

3. Of the applications granted referred to in Q2a and Q2b, how many had their homelessness successfully prevented or relieved, or were offered accommodation under the main housing duty.

Of the applications made in the last three years, these are the outcomes where homelessness was successfully prevented or relieved with the offer of suitable accommodation (for prevention, this includes remaining in their current home).

	Prevention duty		
	ended with an		
	offer of suitable	Relief Duty	Main Duty
	accommodation	Ended with an	Ended with an
Domestic	(or remained in	offer of suitable	offer of suitable
violence/abuse	home)	accommodation	accommodation

1st Oct 2018 to 30th			
Sept 2019	13	34	77
1st Oct 2019 to 30th			
Sept 2020	18	61	82
1st Oct 2020 to 30th			
Sept 2021	9	60	24

Other forms of violence	Prevention duty ended with an offer of suitable accommodation (or remained in home)	Relief Duty Ended with an offer of suitable accommodation	Main Duty Ended with an offer of suitable accommodation
1st Oct 2018 to 30th Sept 2019	7	13	26
1st Oct 2019 to 30th			
Sept 2020 1st Oct 2020 to 30th	10	14	21
Sept 2021	11	29	10

4. Whether the local authority has policy documents governing it's decision making process when an applications has been made for priority housing need on the basis that the applicant is at risk of a) domestic violence and b) other forms of violence

Coventry City Council follows the Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities and any relevant case law during the decision-making process.

5. If the local authority has policy documents referred to in Q4, copies of those documents.

Not applicable, please refer to Question 4.

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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 icocasework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance