

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI503053810

Thank you for your request for information relating to Asylum Seekers Accommodation.

You have requested the following information:

- 1. The number of premises (this means hotels as well as any other premises that have been repurposed) currently being used in the council area to house asylum seekers/migrants/ those individuals waiting to be processed.
- 2. Please provide the number of individuals being housed in the council area.
- 3. Please provide the names of the premises being used to house these individuals (if unable to provide this information please proceed with the rest of the request)

For Questions 1 to 3, individuals or families who have arrived in the UK and claimed asylum have their claims processed and assessed by the UK Government Home Office. Of those claiming asylum cases which are destitute, are supported by Home Office contractors and dispersed to multiple locations across the UK. The City Council is aware that Coventry is used as an asylum dispersal area whilst asylum seekers have their claims processed.

None of these arrangements are within the control of the City Council and whilst the Council has some UK Government data shared with it, this is done on an official sensitive basis. The data is owned by the Home Office who should be contacted for a response.

Such information as is publicly available can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/asylum-and-resettlement-datasets

4. The estimated annual cost to the council of housing and supporting these individuals (if unable to provide this information please proceed with the rest of the request)

The Council does not contribute to the cost of housing any asylum seekers within the City. When asylum seekers are successful in their claims, they have a right to apply for housing or other support in the same way as any other Coventry resident and according to relevant legislation, but this is after they have ceased to be asylum seekers and established leave to remain.

Aspects of other support are provided for some asylum seekers resident in the city depending on their length of stay in the UK and access to public funds. The Council does not specifically record expenditure based on the immigration status of individuals. We are therefore advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act, that this information is not held.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR 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: 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