

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI690599592

Thank you for your request for information relating to Temporary accommodation spending.

You have requested the following information:

- 1. The total amount spent by the council on temporary accommodation in each of the last five financial years (2019/20 to 2023/24).
- 2. A breakdown of this spending, specifically:
- a) The amount spent on B&Bs and hotels as temporary accommodation in each of the last five financial years.

In response to Questions 1 and 2a, we confirm the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the total expenditure on temporary accommodation and B&Bs/hotels is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council and Government website, please use the following links:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/local-authority-revenue-expenditure-and-financing#multi-year-revenue-outturn-data-set

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/818/spending_over_500

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

b) The number of households placed in B&Bs/hotels each year.

We confirm we do not hold the figures for 2019/20, and we are informing you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. During 2019/20, the Salvation Army was contracted to provide various advice and accommodation services for homeless households, which included the provision of temporary accommodation. We therefore do not hold information for this timeframe on our system.

2020/21 - 183 households

2021/22 - 35 households

2022/23 - 413 households

2023/24 - 833 households

202 up to the end of February 2025 – 268 households

Please note we currently have no families placed within B&Bs/hotels since September 2024. If a household is placed into a B&B/hotel, they are moved as soon as practically possible. No family households are accommodated in B&B/hotels over a period of 6 weeks.

3. The longest continuous period any household has spent in B&B/hotel accommodation in the last 12 months.

The longest continuous period for a single person who has now moved to suitable self-contained accommodation is 204 days.

4. The average length of stay in B&B/hotel accommodation for homeless households in the last 12 months.

14 days.

- 5. The total number of council-owned homes managed by the local authority currently classified as not fit for human habitation under the Housing Act 2004 or deemed non-decent under the Decent Homes Standard.
- 6. A breakdown of the reasons why these homes have been classified as unfit (e.g., damp/mould, structural issues, electrical hazards, lack of heating, etc.).
- 7. The number of complaints from tenants about poor housing conditions received by the council in each of the last five financial years (2019/20 to 2023/24).
- 8. The amount spent on repairs and maintenance of council homes in each of the last five financial years.

In response to Questions 5 to 8, we confirm that we do not hold this information and are informing you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. Coventry City Council does not own any housing stock, as this was transferred to Citizen Housing (formerly Whitefriars) in September 2000 through Large Scale Voluntary Transfer.

This transfer also involved movement of responsibility for management of the housing stock, including repairs and maintenance and the setting and collection of rents along with any right-to-buy activities.

For clarity, the Council relinquished responsibility regarding these matters in their entirety as part of the transfer.

To advise and assist you further, information about Citizen Housing and their services can be found on the web site at:

https://www.citizenhousing.org.uk/

The supply of information in response to a FOI request does not confer an automatic right to reuse 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