

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI753039218

Thank you for your request for information relating to Cost of Supporting Migrants in Coventry.

You have requested the following information:

1. Can you provide a detailed breakdown of the number of migrants who have settled in Coventry in the past year? I would also like details of everything Coventry City Council has funded other than housing, including sports trips, DJ lessons, yoga classes, driving lessons and games consoles, such as PlayStations.

Coventry has been a centre of inward migration throughout its history as a city. People have travelled to the city to work, study or worship, sometimes in a planned manner but in other circumstances fleeing persecution or intolerance. Coventry is a welcoming city.

The local authority only collects data on specific arrivals in the city under particular programmes where we are required to do so by central government. Two programmes which we can therefore give more accurate data relate to the various Afghan resettlement programmes which have been operational over recent years. The Council also collects data for the numbers of people arriving under the Homes for Ukraine programme. The numbers for the last year up to 30th September 2025 are shown below.

	01/10/24 - 30/09/25
Afghan (ARAP/ACRS/ARP)	145
HfU	148

In addition to this we are aware that as a city both Coventry University and Warwick University

attract significant numbers of students to their graduate and under-graduate programmes. Many of these will travel to the UK from other countries to take advantage of these courses, the Council does not hold records regarding numbers of people arriving in the city for this purpose. We are therefore informing you as per Section 1(1) that this information is not held.

The city's economy is increasingly diverse with many successful businesses and a strong health and social care sector. Many people arrive in the city to perform key tasks in these sectors, however once again this is not an area where the Council would hold records of numbers.

The city has been an asylum dispersal area since 1999. Asylum seekers have been dispersed to the city since this time. Many people who have been granted asylum whilst living in Coventry choose to settle here, and in some circumstances, we understand people who get decisions elsewhere choose Coventry as a place to re-start their lives. There is no comprehensive registration process for this happening therefore the Council does not hold detailed records regarding people who settle in this way.

The Home Office report data regarding the number of people living in the city under the asylum system at any one time, but this a tool which is only of limited value, representing a snapshot at any one point. This can be found at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/68a34956cd7b7dcfaf2b5e62/support-local-authority-datasets-jun-2025.xlsx

In terms of the request for detailed spending on the listed non-housing spending. These are not activities that have been funded by the City Council over the period specified. We are therefore informing you as per Section 1(1) 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