



Information Governance Team

Postal Address:
Coventry City Council
PO Box 7097
Coventry
CV6 9SL

www.coventry.gov.uk

E-mail: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Phone: 024 7697 5408

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI759306825

Thank you for your request for information relating to Social Housing Allocations.

You have requested the following information:

For calendar years 2024-2025, and year start 2025 to date, please provide the following aggregate, anonymised information held by your council.

1. The total number of individuals granted refugee status, humanitarian protection, or indefinite leave to remain who were placed in the highest priority band for social housing allocation. Please separate by type (e.g., column 1 refugee status, column 2 humanitarian protection etc.) Where numbers are less than or equal to 5, please express as ≤ 5 to protect individual identities, no personal information is requested.

We hold the information which you have asked for, but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

This data is not available in a reportable format. Applicants are asked a series of questions on the application form to determine whether they are eligible to join the housing register (Coventry Homefinder) under Part 6 of the Housing Act 1996. The responses to these questions will be recorded on the case file. In order to answer this part of your request, an officer would have to manually analyse each individual file to determine how many were eligible due to being granted refugee status, humanitarian protection, or indefinite leave to remain. We estimate as there over

700 records, this will exceed 18 hours hence this part of your request has been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

2. Confirmation (yes/no) that all such individuals were assessed against the council's statutory housing need criteria under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 (or equivalent legislation) and met those criteria.

All households who apply to Homefinder are assessed under Part 6 of the Housing Act 1996, which is the legislation relating to housing allocations. Only those who make a homelessness application are assessed under the homelessness legislation (Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 as amended by the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017), and this is a separate assessment undertaken by different officers.

Once a decision is made regarding any duties owed under the homelessness legislation, this will be reflected in the household's band on Homefinder. Banding for applicants who are owed the various homelessness duties, and details of other priority needs covered in the highest Band (Band 1), can be found here:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/housing-1/coventry-homefinder-policy-autumn-2021/5>

3. The total number of council-owned or managed social housing properties allocated to individuals granted refugee status, humanitarian protection, or indefinite leave to remain in the highest priority band during each period. Please separate by type. Where numbers are less than or equal to 5, please express as ≤ 5 to protect individual identities, no personal information is requested.

We do not hold the requested information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act, Coventry City Council no longer owns any social housing following the transfer of all the council's social housing stock to Whitefriars Housing Group (now Citizen) in 2000.

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/>

4. The total number of social housing properties (council-owned or managed) allocated to all individuals in the highest priority band during each period. Where numbers are less than or equal to 5, please express as ≤ 5 to protect individual identities, no personal information is requested.

We do not hold the requested information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act, Coventry City Council no longer owns any social housing following the transfer of all the council's

social housing stock to Whitefriars Housing Group (now Citizen) in 2000.

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: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) 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