



Information Governance Team

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13 November 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI758565438**

Thank you for your request for information relating to HMO Licences and housing asylum seekers/refugees.

You have requested the following information:

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information regarding Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in the local authority area. HMOs refers to properties meeting the definition at, <https://www.gov.uk/private-renting/houses-in-multiple-occupation>.

If costs exceed limits, please prioritize Q1-4 and advise on refinements

1. Please provide the total number of licensed HMOs in the local authority as of 31st October 2025. If available, please include a breakdown by postcode area or ward.

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 information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following link:

www.coventry.gov.uk/hmo

2. Please provide the total number of planning applications submitted between 1st January

2020 to present for change of use to C4 (small HMO) and Sui Generis (large HMO).

3. If possible please include application reference number and applicant type (e.g., individual, company, names not required).

For Questions 2 and 3, 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 information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/planning-development/coventry-online-planning-register>

You can filter by completing the relevant fields.

4. Of the licensed HMOs identified in question 1:

How many are currently used to house asylum seekers or refugees?

How many are managed directly by the council or by a third party (e.g., Home Office contractors such as Serco or Mears).

No personal data on individuals is requested, in line with data protection regulations. This information is sought for public interest research on housing provision.

We are advising you as per Section of the FOIA that we do not hold the requested information for Question 4. The Council does not record HMOs occupied by refugees or asylum seekers differently from HMOs occupied by other persons, and therefore we are unable to provide these data.

5. For the next 24 months, how many additional HMOs/properties for asylum/refugee dispersal, are planned or expected? Include any contract summaries or forecasts shared with Home Office providers. Aggregate numbers acceptable for data protection reasons.

Coventry City Council does not expect any further procurement in the city over the immediate period.

6. Please provide risk assessments, equality impact assessments, or public consultation records (last 2 years) on HMO asylum use, including how objections are addressed. Aggregate numbers acceptable for data protection reasons.

We are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the FOIA that we do not hold the requested information for Question 6.

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