Information Governance Team

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[redacted]

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI840022112

Thank you for your request for information relating to Veterans and Housing Services Data.

You have requested the following information:

I am requesting information relating to applicants identified as veterans of the UK Armed Forces within your authority's housing and homelessness services.

Please provide the following information for each financial year from 2020/21 to the most recent complete year available.

1. Housing Register

Please provide:
• The number of households on the housing register identified as veterans of the UK Armed Forces.
• The number of veteran households added to the housing register during each reporting year.

2. Social Housing Allocations

Please provide:
• The number of veteran households allocated social housing.

The table below shows the data for Q1 and Q2:

Year	Number of Armed Forces veterans on the register (as at 31st March each year)	Number of Armed Forces veterans allocated a property during the year
2020/21	9	4
2021/22	4	4
2022/23	9	0
2023/24	4	2
2024/25	8	1
2025/26	13	0

Note: these are applicants where it is recorded that they have additional preference – see response to Q5

3. Homelessness Applications

Please provide:

• The number of homelessness applications where the applicant was identified as a veteran of the UK Armed Forces.

• The number of veteran households owed:
• Prevention Duty
• Relief Duty
• Main Housing Duty

4. Temporary Accommodation

Please provide:

• The number of veteran households placed into temporary accommodation.

The information for question 3 and 4 is in the table below:

	Applications	Prevention duty	Relief duty	Main Housing duty	Temporary Accommodation provided
2020/21	12	4	8	7	5
2021/22	26	9	18	8	12
2022/23	12	4	9	6	7
2023/24	27	13	20	14	14
2024/25	31	8	24	13	16
2025/26	27	7	22	7	12

Please note one individual/household may be owed more than one duty during the homelessness application process. There are also a number of individuals/households that have approached for homelessness assistance more than once during the six year period.

5. Armed Forces Covenant Recording

Please confirm:

• Whether your authority records Armed Forces veteran status within housing or homelessness systems.

Yes, within both systems.

• Whether veteran status is recorded through self-identification or another method.

For a homelessness application, there is a specific question asked of all applicants about whether the applicant (or a member of their household) has ever served in HM Armed Forces. The applicant will self identify in response to this question but it is not usually separately verified.

There is also a question on the Homefinder application form for all applicants, asking if the applicant (or a member of their household) has ever served in HM Armed Forces. The applicant initially self identifies in response to this question but will be asked to provide documentary evidence in order for them to receive additional preference in line with the policy (see below).

• Whether your authority has specific housing guidance, policy, or procedures relating to the Armed Forces Covenant.

The Coventry Homefinder Policy includes an exemption from the local connection requirement for certain categories of members or former members of the Armed Forces (section 4.3.4). They are also given additional priority on the register (section 5.3). The mechanism for this, is that they are placed one Band higher than they would be placed based on their housing needs alone. If their housing needs place them in Band 1 already (the highest band), their application priority date is backdated for one additional year. The full Homefinder policy can be found here:

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/housing 1/coventry homefinder policy autumn 2021

For homelessness applications, we follow the statutory guidance in Chapter 24 of the "Homelessness code of guidance for local authorities", which can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homelessness code of guidance for local authorities/chapter 24 former-members-of-the-armed-forces

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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