



Information Governance
Coventry City Council
PO Box 15
Council House
Coventry
CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

17 November, 2020

Please contact Information Governance
Direct line 024 7697 5408
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ07748**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme.

Your request and our responses are outlined below:

1. I'd like to request information on your Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme proposal if you have one. Are you able to share your bid proposal form for this? In particular, section 3.

In response the Council believes that disclosing the information you requested would prejudice its commercial interest and therefore it is exempt from disclosure under Section 43(2) FOIA. This is because this would involve outlining details of the bid. The commercial arrangements the Council has with suppliers could be worked out from the information provided and used to unfairly undercut the Council.

As Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption, its application must be balanced out with the public interest. In this case, the Council is satisfied that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than that in disclosing it. This is because disclosure would undermine fair competition by providing potential competitors with commercially sensitive information. As a result, the Council believes it is entitled to withhold the requested information.

2. If not, would you be able to share what types of details you have on housing stock in your area? I'd like to know what sort of information you keep on houses (such as EPC rating, property age, fuel poverty indicators, boiler types etc.) and if this has been gathered by yourselves or gathered by a specific third party.

Coventry generally has an old housing stock, which can lead to the exacerbation of health problems as a result of energy inefficient and fuel poor households. The Council has analysed predominantly EPC data to understand the City's housing stock and provide indications for how many households can be supported via the LAD scheme.

Most households within Coventry are owner-occupied, supporting the capability of this application which is solely focussed on owner-occupied houses. A breakdown of tenure types is shown below:

Tenure	Total	Percentage of housing stock
Owner - Occupied	81,981	61.6%
Rented – Private	27,160	21.6%
Rented - Social	22,045	16.8%

An analysis of all the available EPC data within Coventry has indicated that of the 114,897 accessible EPCs, 25,800 (22%) of these are E, F or G rated. These are all potentially eligible for the LAD scheme depending on the assessment of all other eligibility criteria. It should be noted that this table only details households which have had an EPC, therefore may not include households which have never had an EPC or households that have had energy efficiency measures installed but have not updated their EPCs, which has been factored into our modelling. This data also currently does not account for duplications within the database.

EPC rating	Volume	% EPCs	EPC scoring
A	129	0%	92+
B	10,221	9%	81-91
C	28,095	24%	69-80
D	50,652	44%	55-68
E	20,541	18%	39-54
F	4,197	4%	21-38
G	1,062	1%	1-20
Total	114,897		

Looking more specifically at the types of houses in Coventry, the breakdown can be seen below. This shows that by far the most houses are in the mid-terrace category, and therefore would require lower insulation costs than the other housing categories. This is likely to result in the council being able to support these households with additional measures in addition to EWI (as detailed in Question 21).

Property Type	Total	Percentage
House - Terraced	58,534	50%
House – Semi detached	38,534	33%
House - Detached	15,134	13%

Other (e.g. Flats, park homes)	4,532	4%
--------------------------------	-------	----

For the reasons described in Question 22, this application predominantly focusses on EWI. As a result, more in-depth analysis has been centred around the wall types within the EPC data. There are 15,850 properties within Coventry that have uninsulated solid brick walls and EPCs rated at E, F or G. It is reasonable to assume a significant number of these will be owner-occupied and low-income households, all of which will be ideally suited for the LAD scheme.

Wall Type	EPC Rating			Total Eligible Properties by Wall Type	% of Eligible properties
	E	F	G		
Cavity wall, no insulation	3,709	941	208	4,858	21%
Granite or whinstone, no insulation	8	3	1	12	<1%
Park home wall, no insulation	1	1	5	7	<1%
Sandstone or limestone, no insulation	8	6		14	<1%
Solid brick, no insulation	12,646	12,646	740	15,850	70%
System built, no insulation	1,475	375	52	1,902	8%
Timber frame, no insulation	19	14	9	42	<1%
Totals by EPC Rating	17,866	3,804	1,015	22,685	

The fuel types throughout the City were also analysed using the Affordable Warmth Solution non-gas grid [map tool](#). This indicates that 35,199 properties are off grid, including 11,074 with electric as the heating fuel. For this reason, it is important to include heat pumps as a measure, as this upgrade could achieve best value for money in these properties.

The Council are working with their Insight team to map this data to identify the most effective areas to target, considering all the above factors. This should provide postcodes which have a high proportion of households with all the necessary criteria (e.g. owner-occupied, uninsulated solid-brick walls, EPC ratings of E, F or G) which can be targeted.

The Council is continuing to gather and analyse data concerning our housing stock to better understand opportunities and issues associated with retrofit solutions.

The Council's [Citywide Intelligence Hub](#) provides further data about the City, including %households in fuel poverty according to LSOA areas.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information 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.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its FOI/EIR [Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

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 casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance