



Information Governance

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Date: 31 March 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI312403840

Thank you for your request for information relating to Illegal evictions by landlords.

Your request and our responses are shown below:

Between the dates of 16th March 2020 and 1st March 2021, please tell me:

1) How many people, or concerns, contacted the council to advise of an illegal eviction by a landlord in the area you cover?

Between the dates of 16th March 2020 and 1st March 2021, we recorded 45 tenancy liaison complaints.

2) How many of these cases have been investigated and by whom?

The 45 complaints investigated by the Council's Housing Enforcement team are detailed as follows:

- 11 still open
- 1 client withdrawal
- 10 completed
- 1 duplicate complaint
- 9 No Further Action (NFA) – advice given
- 5 NFA – not substantiated
- 1 notice served
- 4 recorded for information only

1 referred to other department
1 referred to other agency
1 warning letter sent

3) How many of these cases have resulted in a court order?

None.

4) How many of these cases of illegal evictions were because tenants fell into rent arrears due to the pandemic?

5) How many tenants whom have been illegally evicted are now in hostels and other temporary accommodation?

6) How many of these cases involve children?

7) How many have been offered alternative housing outside of the borough and how far away? (Please answer in miles)

For Questions 4 to 7, we advise that this information is not recorded by the Housing Enforcement team however to assist, should a household approach the Housing & Homelessness Team for assistance in the event they have been made homeless or are at risk of homelessness, the Team investigates the reasons for their homelessness and provides assistance under the legislation (Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996, as amended).

For the period 16th March 2020 to 1st March 2021, there were seven recorded instances of households approaching the service for homelessness assistance due to an illegal eviction. Further details are shown below:

Q4) None of the households that approached the council for homelessness assistance and were illegally evicted had arrears specifically attributed to the pandemic.

Q5) Two households that approached the council for homelessness assistance and were illegally evicted have been placed in temporary accommodation.

Q6) One of the households that approached the council for homelessness assistance and were illegally evicted had children in the household.

Q7) None of the households that approached the council for homelessness assistance and were illegally evicted have been offered accommodation outside of the borough.

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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.

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

Yours faithfully

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