



## Information Governance Team

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05 August 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**  
**Request ID: FOI347344135**

Thank you for your request for information relating to spending on bed and breakfasts.

You have requested the following information:

**1. What did the Council spend on housing people in Bed & Breakfasts over the past 12 months compared to the previous year and the last five years?**

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.

The information is not held in a manner that allows the figures to be separated between B&B accommodation costs and the overall temporary accommodation costs without reviewing each record (1,178 records held for the past 12 months alone), and cross referencing with the Housing Benefit records, to determine how much HB subsidy was received, to calculate the net cost to the

Council. As this will exceed 18 hours work, this part of your request has therefore been refused.

To assist, we advise there was a cost of £1.339m for B&B/hotel accommodation provided to rough sleepers under the 'Everyone In' programme introduced by the Government in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. This covers the period March 2020 to June 2021 and was funded through Government Covid-19 emergency grant funding.

## **2. How many people did the Council house in Bed & Breakfasts over the past 12 months?**

Coventry City Council does not routinely use B&B accommodation for households requiring temporary accommodation under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996. B&B accommodation may be used in emergency situation, such as when a household presents as homeless out of hours, or during SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocols). If a household is placed in B&B by the out of hours service, their needs are assessed, and more suitable temporary accommodation provided on the next working day.

For the past 12 months, 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, there were:

Out of hours – 157 placements

SWEP – 40 placements

In addition, the Everyone In programme introduced by the Government in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, where all rough sleepers were offered accommodation, meant that rough sleepers in the city were accommodated in B&B/hotel type accommodation. For the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, there were 189 placements.

## **3. What proportion of people in temporary accommodation were housed in Bed & Breakfasts over the past 12 months compared to the previous year?**

There were a total of 1,178 placements into temporary accommodation over the past 12 months, 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. As stated above, Coventry City Council does not routinely use B&B for temporary accommodation, only for emergency Out of Hours placements for one or two nights. For new placements after 1 July 2020 and up to 30 June 2021, a total of 141,386 nights of temporary accommodation were provided. 180 nights were provided in B&B due to households presenting Out of Hours, equating to approx. 0.13% of the total TA provision.

We are unable to provide figures for July 2019 to June 2021, as this included a transition period from a previous contract with the Salvation Army, where they provided temporary accommodation under a wider contract for homelessness accommodation and support.

In addition to the figures provided in Q2 for 'Everyone In' for the 12 months 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, there were 112 placements in B&B/hotel accommodation under 'Everyone In' during the previous 12-month period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020. Please note 'Everyone In' was only introduced in March 2020 with the first Covid lockdown.

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.

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](mailto: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](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

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

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**