



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI482558152

Thank you for your request for information relating to Coventry City Council Affordable Housing Need.

You have requested the following information:

Please provide the information requested below. If the Council keeps multiple registers for affordable housing applicants, please provide information for all registers.

1. How many applicants are currently on the Council's housing waiting list / housing register?

There are currently 7,225 households on the Coventry Homefinder housing register.

2. What is the average waiting time over the latest three years of available data for an applicant on the housing waiting list/housing register to be assigned a property?

In response to Question 2, we confirm we do not hold all of the requested information and are therefore informing you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. In September 2021, a new Homefinder policy was introduced where all applicants were asked to re-register and be re-assessed under this new policy. This also included a new IT system, which we no longer have access to, that was in use before that time for reporting purposes.

To assist, the average waiting time for applicants who had been housed since the new system went live in September 2021, was 365 days. The average time between their band priority date (which may be earlier or later than the date they registered and reflects the time they have been in

the priority band situation) and the date they were housed was 395 days.

3. How many applicants currently on the list would qualify for/ have expressed an interest in an affordable home ownership property (as their sole suitable tenure or in addition to other tenures)?

4. Of the current applicants for affordable home ownership properties:

a. How many would qualify for a 1-bedroom property?

b. How many would qualify for a 2-bedroom property?

c. How many would qualify for a 3-bedroom property?

d. How many would qualify for a 4+-bedroom property?

In response to Questions 3 and 4, we confirm we do not hold this information and are informing you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. Coventry Homefinder is a register for the allocation of social housing for rent. Therefore, we do not record whether an applicant would qualify for or has expressed an interest in affordable home ownership.

To assist, if applicants would qualify for or have expressed an interest in shared ownership housing and the Help to Buy equity loans, people can apply to the local Help to Buy agent. For First Homes and Discount Market Sale properties, people can apply directly to the developer and the council then approve the sale if the relevant eligibility conditions are met. To advise and assist further, the link to the local Help to Buy agent has been provided below:

<https://www.helptobuyagent2.org.uk/>

5. How many applicants currently on the list would qualify for/have expressed an interest in a social/affordable rented property (as their sole suitable tenure or in addition to other tenures)?

Coventry Homefinder is a register for the allocation of social housing for rent. Therefore, all of the applicants who are currently on the register would have expressed an interest in a social or affordable rented property. When applying for a social or affordable rented property, there are qualifying criteria to join the register which must be met, and the housing association that owns or manages the property may have their own qualifying criteria as well. Further details on this are available for you to access on our Council website. Please use the below link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/housing-1/coventry-homefinder-policy-autumn-2021/4>

6. Of the current applicants for social/affordable rented properties:

a. How many have requested a 1-bedroom property?

3,428 applicants.

b. How many have requested a 2-bedroom property?

1,645 applicants.

c. How many have requested a 3-bedroom property?

1,613 applicants.

d. How many have requested a 4+-bedroom property?

539 applicants.

7. How many new applicants to the list were there in the following periods:

- a. 2011-2012
- b. 2012-2013
- c. 2013-2014
- d. 2014-2015
- e. 2015-2016
- f. 2016-2017
- g. 2017-2018
- h. 2018-2019
- i. 2019-2020
- j. 2020-2021
- k. 2021-2022

We confirm we do not hold this information and are informing you as per Section 1 (1) of the Act. Please refer to our response to Question 2.

To assist, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities publishes the total number of households on the register as of 31 March each year in Live Table 600. This allows you to see how many applicants in total were on the register within each year. The information is available for you to access on the Government website. Please use the below link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-rents-lettings-and-tenancies>

During the calendar year 2022, the year that we obtained all of the data, we confirm there were a total of 3,600 new registrations.

8. Out of all current applicants, how many would be first time buyers or renters (if known)?

We confirm that we do not hold this information and are informing you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. The applicant's current accommodation type is recorded on the Homefinder application however, it is not possible to say whether an applicant has ever previously rented or purchased a home.

The supply of information in response to a FOI 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