



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI557616824

Thank you for your request for information relating to 'New refugees' and housing.

You have requested the following information:

1. The number of 'new refugees' who applied to the Council for housing in 2022?

We do not hold the requested information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. Coventry Homefinder (the housing register/choice based lettings system) does not record whether applicants are 'new refugees'.

Households who approach the service for homelessness assistance (please see Question 2), who are owed a homelessness duty will be registered with Coventry Homefinder as part of the homelessness assistance given to them, but there may also be a number of 'new refugees' who register with Coventry Homefinder that do not approach through the homelessness route.

2. The number of 'new refugees' who presented as homeless to the Council in 2022?

In 2022, a total of 101 approaches were made by households who were homeless because they were 'required to leave accommodation provided by the Home Office as asylum support'. Of these, 73 went on to a full homelessness assessment where a homelessness duty (prevention duty or relief duty) was owed by the Council.

3. The number of 'new refugees who have applied to the Council for housing in 2023 (up until today's date)?

Please refer to Question 1.

4. The number of 'new refugees' who have presented as homeless to the Council in 2023 (up until today's date)?

In 2023 up to 27 October 2023, a total of 217 approaches have been made by households who were homeless because they were 'required to leave accommodation provided by the Home Office as asylum support'. Of these, 162 went on to a full homelessness assessment where a homelessness duty (prevention duty or relief duty) was owed by the Council.

5. Does your Council have an estimate of the number of 'new refugees' who will approach you for housing behind today's date and the end of 2023?

The City Council is aware that there are high numbers of asylum seekers currently resident in Coventry under Home Office support. The Council is also aware that there is currently a Streamlined Asylum Process exercise being undertaken by the Home Office which provides an accelerated decision process for many asylum seekers which is increasing the numbers of people granted positive decisions.

Despite assurances that further information would be provided to the Council before the end of October regarding the future pipeline of asylum decisions impacting on Coventry this information has not to date been provided which makes responding to this request impossible. The Council would anticipate however that presentations would increase over the next two months as the accelerated process continues.

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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