

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI597222517

Thank you for your request for information relating to mould treatment in council properties.

You have requested the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the work and expenses associated with mould treatment and remediation in council buildings and residential properties owned and or operated by the council.

The Government has proposed an amendment to the Social Housing Regulation Act, which is being referred to as Awaab's Law. The new regulation will require landlords to fix reported health hazards within specified timeframes. These measures, along with other provisions from the Act, are expected to come into force in 2024.

Given the recent media coverage, health warnings associated with mould and the implementation of Awaab's Law together with the public interest in understanding how taxpayer funds are utilised by the council, I am requesting details of action being taken by the council and a detailed breakdown of all costs related to this important topic as follows:

1. Does the council have a specific department responsible for managing this issue and who is this led by (councillor / civil servant);

Adrian Chowns, Head of Safer Housing and Communities and Councillor David Welsh, Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities.

The Facilities Management department is responsible for property condition and repairs however, the Council is not a registered social landlord and does not operate social housing other than emergency temporary accommodation for homeless individuals which is directly managed and serviced by the Council.

2. What action is the council taking to address the requirements of Awaab's Law;

We do have a Housing Enforcement team however they work in relation to privately rented properties and Residential Social Landlords.

3. Which companies have been awarded contracts to treat, prevent (treatment companies) and repair (e.g. painting and decorating) damp and mould damage to properties owned by the council;

None.

4. What is the value of spend on the treatment and repair of properties damaged by mould during the last 12 months and what is expected to be spent in the next 12 months; and

Not applicable.

5. What is the process that the council will be following to ensure compliance with Awaab's Law?

This Question is not applicable as we are not a social landlord.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR 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: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> 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: infoqov@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