

Response to Request for Information

Reference EIR 000090
Date 8 November 2016

Affordable Housing

Request:

Thank you for your request for information about the above. We are dealing with your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. In response to your request please find our response below:

1. The number of applications submitted to the council for housing developments in the following financial years:
 - a) 2012/13 – 62 approved (all sizes of development)
 - b) 2013/14 – 39 approved (all sizes of development)
 - c) 2014/15 – 74 approved (all sizes of development)
 - d) 2015/16 – 56 approved (all sizes of development)

2. Of those, what proportion classed as affordable housing? Please include applications where, of the new-builds, a percentage of affordable housing was offered.
 - a) 2012/13 – 3%
 - b) 2013/14 – 8%
 - c) 2014/15 – 9%
 - d) 2015/16 – 7%

3. Of those, what proportion were approved, rejected, or are ongoing?
All of the figures provided above relate to approved permissions as data is not generated for refusals or on-going applications relating specifically to housing developments.

4. Have any applications been dealt with in the last financial year which have been moderated to accommodate more or less affordable housing beyond the first stage of application?
Yes

5. Does the council have a specific definition of affordable housing? If so, how is it checked and what is done to ensure it is adhered to after permission has been granted?
Yes – in the Black Country Core Strategy and the Wolverhampton Affordable Housing SPD. This is done through normal enforcement of Section 106 requirements.

6. Does the council have any data on how much 'affordable housing' is currently available? 69
7. Please outline affordable housing targets, and what proportion of planned/approved developments/new-builds (private and otherwise) provide 'affordable housing' and what do not.

Table 15: Wolverhampton Affordable Housing Figures: 2006-14

| Year | New Affordable Housing | Gross housing target | Proportion | Target (15%) |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|
| 2006-7 | 80 | 638 | 13% | 96 |
| 2007-8 | 140 | 638 | 22% | 96 |
| 2008-9 | 140 | 638 | 22% | 96 |
| 2009-10 | 160 | 639 | 25% | 96 |
| 2010-11 | 130 | 639 | 20% | 96 |
| 2011-12 | 100 | 639 | 16% | 96 |
| 2012-13 | 190 | 575 | 33% | 86 |
| 2013-14 | 102 | 573 | 18% | 86 |
| Total | 1042 | 4979 | 21% | 748 |

Only developments of 15 homes or more are required to provide affordable housing. Of these eligible housing developments with permission as of March 2016, 35% provided some affordable housing.

8. What is the current number of people on the waiting list for local authority housing? 8,374 at 10/11/16
9. What is the average waiting time and what was it in the financial year 2011/12? This information is not available, City of Wolverhampton Council operates a choice based lettings scheme, the time an applicant can wait to be successful with an offer is dependent on the number of homes coming available for letting, the property type that they are eligible for, the location of the property and demand for it. 2015/16 1,748 relets were made.