



## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 0815105  
Date            21 August 2015

### *Homeless People*

#### **Request:**

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information:

- 1.) How much money has your local authority spent in total each month on temporary accommodation for homeless people. Please also state this on an annual basis.
- 2.) How much money has your local authority spent each month since 1 May 2007 on Bed & Breakfast accommodation to temporarily house homeless people?
- 3.) How much money has your local authority spend each month since 1 May 2007 on hotel accommodation to temporarily house homeless people?
- 4.) Please state which hotel firms are used by your local authority to temporarily house homeless people, and how much money each company has been paid each month since 1 May 2007.
- 5.) How much money has your local authority spent each month since 1 May 2007 on hostel accommodation to temporarily house homeless people?
- 6.) How much money has your local authority spent each month since 1 May 2007 on private rented accommodation to temporarily house homeless people?
- 7.) How much money has your local authority spent each month since 1 May 2007 on any other (non-social housing) type of accommodation to temporarily house homeless people? Please specify what this is.

The requested information should be broken down month on month and annually from 1 May 2007 to 31 July 2015. If your authority's records do not go back as far as May 2007, please provide monthly data from whenever the data is recorded from. If your authority does not hold all the data requested, please provide the data that it does hold where relevant and explain where it does not.

#### **Response:**

In response to your request in regards to Homeless People, we can confirm that following careful consideration, the Council regrets to inform you that it has decided not to disclose this information.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Information you have requested has been withheld from disclosure. The exemption engaged is Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

Section 12 of the FOI exempts Public Authorities from providing information where the estimated cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. Any estimate must be undertaken in accordance with the limits set in fees regulations made under Section 12 (5) of the FOI.

These Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244 Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations) allow for a refusal where the cost of compliance, for local authorities such as the Council, would exceed £450. As a guide, staff time to identify and extract this information is charged at a rate of £25 per hour.

In summary, we cannot easily gather this information via a report as it is not held centrally. In order to determine the information you have requested, we would need to manually interrogate various systems and have this validated by various service areas. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

If you can narrow down your request the Council will look into the matter again and may be able to provide the information free of charge because it would cost less than the appropriate limit to do so. Any reformulated request the department receives from you will be treated as a fresh FOI request.