

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_20200330**
Date FOI Received: **22/05/2020**
Department: **Housing**
Title: **HMO use and COVID-19**
Description: **Figures on Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and homelessness**

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

I hereby request the following information regarding your Council's use of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO)* (please see below the definition) and homelessness.

Questions:

1. How many rooms in HMO's were booked by the Council for each full month from September 2019 up to and including January 2020? (Please note that I do not mean new bookings, but rather I mean the total number being used by the Council during each month.)
2. What rate was being paid per night by the Council for each HMO room? If there was a range of rates charged for HMO rooms being used by the Council, please provide details of with the 3 lowest rates per night and 3 most expensive rates per night
3. How many hotel and bed & breakfast rooms were booked by the Council to be used to house individuals who was owed a duty by the Council under homelessness legislation for each full month from September 2019 up to and including January 2020? (Please note that I do not mean new bookings, but rather I mean the total number being used by the Council during each month.)
4. How many new applications did the Council receive for homelessness from 1st September 2019 up to and including 31st January 2020?
5. Due to the Covid-19 Crisis the Government launch a scheme called "Everyone in" which sought to ensure all rough sleepers were taken off the streets and housed during the pandemic. How many rough sleepers did the council take off the street under this Scheme?
6. Please provide the amount of emergency funding received by the Council under the "Everyone in" scheme?

If it is not possible to provide all the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.

* An HMO as defined by the Government as a home where:

- at least 3 tenants live there, forming more than 1 household;
- tenants share toilet, bathroom or kitchen facilities with other tenants

A household is either a single person or members of the same family who live together.

A family includes people who are:

- married or living together - including people in same-sex relationships
- relatives or half-relatives, for example grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings step-parents and step-children

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

1.

Month	Number of HMO'S booked
September 2019	28
October 2019	26
November 2019	23
December 2019	22
January 2020	25

2. £35 per night (plus vat) – no variation in rate

3. 0

4. How many new applications did the Council receive for homelessness from 1st September 2019 up to and including 31st January 2020? 364 Applications

5. During the 'Everyone In' scheme, as of 20th July 2020, we have accommodated 19 rough sleepers.

6. The Council has applied for the maximum funding of £5,250 from the Covid-19 Rough Sleeping Contingency Fund