

Request 8268 – Empty Homes and Homelessness

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. My request relates to empty residential properties and homelessness.

I would like to request the number of residential properties within your council area (not limited to council or social housing) which have had no residents for the entirety (or most of) the following years:

- i) 2016 / 2017
- ii) 2017 / 2018
- iii) 2018 / 2019
- iv) 2019 – 2020
- v) 2020 – 2021

Please specify if this is recorded by calendar or financial year? My preference would be for financial. If you are unable to provide data for the whole year then 4 snapshots at different dates throughout the year should help paint a picture of empty homes in the area. Such as 1 of January, 20 May, 15 of October and 31 of December.

I would also like to request the number of people declared intentionally homeless within your council, relating to the following periods:

- i) 2016 / 2017
- ii) 2017 / 2018
- iii) 2018 / 2019
- iv) 2019 – 2020
- v) 2020 – 2021

I would also like to request the number of people declared unintentionally homeless within your council area, relating to the following periods:

- i) 2016 / 2017
- ii) 2017 / 2018
- iii) 2018 / 2019
- iv) 2019 – 2020
- v) 2020 – 2021

I would also like to request any other data used to measure the number of homeless people and / or rough sleepers within your council area, relating to the following periods:

- i) 2016 / 2017
- ii) 2017 / 2018
- iii) 2018 / 2019
- iv) 2019 – 2020
- v) 2020 – 2021

Please provide the information in an electronic format.

Response

Q1) please see the following link to the government website for information on our unoccupied property: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/council-taxbase-statistics>

With regards to your questions 2 – 4 we do not have data before 01.04.2018 due to a change in our system. These figures only relate to those who we were unable to prevent homelessness during prevention or relief and we have had to then make a main duty decision. Because intentionality decision comes after eligibility and priority need, these people will have been declared homeless, eligible and in priority need.

Q2) 01.04.2018 to 31.12.2018 – 6
01.01.2019 to 31.12.2019 – 13
01.01.2020 to 02.12.2020 – 2

Q3) 01.04.2018 to 31.12.2018 – 46
01.01.2019 to 31.12.2019 – 93
01.01.2020 to 02.12.2020 – 90

Q4) The number of applicants who approached the council as street homeless.
01.4.2018 to 31.12.2018 – 5
01.04.2019 to 31.12.2019 – 7
01.01.2020 to 02.12.2020 – 6 (another 6 who we have accommodated due to covid who did not make homeless applications)