

Request 8007 – Homelessness

Please may I make the following freedom of information request. All UK councils have been contacted, and no individual councils will be identified:

1. A) Does your council routinely ask your homeless service users about their sexuality as part of monitoring?
1. B) Does your council routinely ask your homeless service users about their gender identity as part of monitoring?

2. A) Does your council require 'proof' to show that people have been asked to leave home by their family members?
2. B) Would you contact the family members of LGBT people who have been asked to leave their homes, for further proof?

3. Have your housing officers received specialist LGBT homelessness training?

4. Does your council offer an emergency homeless shelter/service for LGBT people?

4. How much money did your council spend on LGBT related merchandise for Pride events, or LGBT diversity celebrations, in the financial year 2019-2020 (e.g. Rainbow flags for Pride 2019)?

Response

1.a) Yes, it is part of our monitoring and is on our form. It is also there as we need to take account of anything that may need to be considered under the equalities act.

1.b) Yes for the same reasons as 1a.

2.a) We would need to be satisfied that a person could not go back home. This may mean discussing with the family/parent but not if this would put the person at risk. We try to obtain information to support what they say but this could come from the person, but we do not expect to 'prove' this.

2.b) As above

3. Not specifically but they do do training that includes this

4. a) We offer emergency accommodation for anyone who fulfils the criteria required by Housing and Homelessness law regardless of sexuality. We do not have accommodation that is specific for LGBT.

4. b) for 2019/20 was Nil