


REQUEST	14151 - Housing Officers assessment of temporary accommodation for households with children	RESPONSE
	<p>Please can you send copies of all documents currently used by your housing officers to assess the suitability of temporary accommodation provided under the s193 main housing duty, for households with children (such as guidance notes, briefings, training sessions and template forms). If any of these documents are already in the public domain, please can you provide a link to where I can retrieve these exact documents.</p> <p>These documents could include (but not be limited to):</p> <p>1(a) Guidance for housing officers on how to carry out suitability assessments; and</p> <p>(b) Training materials on how to assess suitability.</p> <p>2. In addition to the above documents, please can you send us the following information:</p> <p>(a) The number of households with children provided with TA by your Authority in the 2021/2022 financial year;</p> <p>(b) The number of households with children that have been placed in TA with shared facilities in the last financial year (facilities includes cooking areas and bathrooms);</p> <p>(c) A list of hostels/hotels/B&Bs that your authority uses to accommodate households with children;</p> <p>(d) A list of the houses/flats/other self-contained properties that your authority uses to accommodate households with children;</p>	<p>1a/b) Homelessness Codes of Guidance Suitability of accommodation</p> <p> Suitability Checklist TA.docx</p> <p>2a) 439 Households</p> <p>2b) 0</p> <p>2c and d) We are unable to share this information as this could affect the safety of those placements.</p> <p>The names and addresses of the hotels are exempt from disclosure under Section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA). Section 38 (i)(b) states that information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, endanger the safety of any individual. Disclosure under the FoIA is deemed to be to the world at large. To disclose the full names and addresses of hotels to the world at large would put at risk the safety of vulnerable individuals.</p>

<p>(e) The number of households with children whose TA has been found to be unsuitable following a s202 review in the 2021/2022 financial year;</p> <p>(f) The number of households with children currently residing in TA that has been found to be unsuitable following a s202 review;</p> <p>(g) The percentage of households with children living in TA who have submitted a suitability review in the 2021/2022 financial year;</p> <p>(h) The number of households with children who have been placed in TA which is out of area in the 2021/2022 financial year; and</p> <p>(i) The average length of time households with children remain in TA before being moved on to permanent accommodation.</p>	<p>As this a qualified exemption, the Council is required to undertake a public interest test. The Council acknowledges its obligations of transparency and accountability in all its undertakings. However, in this case, the safeguarding of vulnerable individuals would be put at risk by publishing the names and addresses of hotels and clearly outweighs that. On balance, therefore, the Council believes that only the information provided can be disclosed.</p> <p>2e) None</p> <p>2f) None</p> <p>2g) None</p> <p>2h) 11</p> <p>2i) 41 days</p>
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Suitability Checklist - TA

Completed by:

Date:

Case name:

Locata ref:

Placement details:

POINTS TO CONSIDER	COMMENTS
<p>Family make-up/property size -</p> <p>Who is part of the household, what property size is needed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-bedroom requirements-any reasons why they cannot share or additional space need-rooms size checks, have we checked sizes if this is an issue and whether they can be adequately used, bed space etc.	
<p>Medical needs of any household member –</p> <p>What are the medical needs, any known disabilities, medication, professional support, medical equipment, OT needed?</p> <p>How does this impact on housing?</p> <p>Equality Act consideration?</p> <p>Any evidence needed in support?</p>	
<p>Location –</p> <p>Where had they been living?</p> <p>Areas agreed on assessment and throughout case</p> <p>Why do they need this area? Schooling, employment, specific support, medical reasons, risks, if they moved areas can these still be met.</p> <p>Any evidence, bus journeys, cost of travel etc.</p>	

<p>Affordability –</p> <p>What is their income, is this affordability, does property make any additional costs, extra bedrooms, charges, location and travel?</p>	
<p>Risk/Crime/ASB -</p> <p>Has this been raised and what enquiries have been made to complete checks?</p>	
<p>Other agencies –</p> <p>Who is working with customer? Do we need to complete any referrals? Have they been involved in suitability, what are their views? Have they been properly consulted?</p>	