



## **REQUEST 18085**

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following data pertaining to households with children in temporary accommodation.

Please provide all of the data for two (2) time periods: end of March 2025; and end of March 2024

1.
  - a. Number of households with children aged under 5 in temporary accommodation
  - b. Number of households with children (under 5) in temporary accommodation for more than 6 weeks
  - c. Number of households with children (under 5) in temporary accommodation for more than 6 months
  - d. Total number of children aged under 5 in temporary accommodation (not number of households)
2.
  - a. Number of households with children aged under 5 in b&b temporary accommodation
  - b. Number of households with children (under 5) in b&b temporary accommodation for more than 6 weeks
  - c. Number of households with children (under 5) in b&b temporary accommodation for more than 6 months
  - d. Total number of children aged under 5 in b&b temporary accommodation (not number of households)

## **RESPONSE**

1.
  - a. 67 (2024) 87 (2025)
  - b. 52 (2024) 66 (2025)
  - c. 20 (2024) 18 (2025)
2.
  - a. 11(2024) 3 (2025)
  - b. 6 (2024) 1 (2025)
  - c. 2 (2024) 1 (2025)

For questions **1d** and **2d**, we do not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/3244) set out the rules in relation to the cost limit (otherwise called the “appropriate limit”). These Regulations are published by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) and are viewable on their web site from this link: [http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi\\_20043244\\_en.pdf](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf)

The Regulations set out the cost limit for Government departments and for other public authorities. For local government, Regulation 3 states that the cost limit is £450 and Regulation 4(4) states that the prescribed hourly rate is £25. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA. I am satisfied the cost limit applies to your request and will explain why this is the case.

We would have to manually audit 154 cases on our case management system, to review how many children of this age were in each household, this would take approx. 8 minutes per case (154 x 8 = 1232 minutes/20 hours).