



REQUEST 18621

1. How many HMOs are located within 500 metres of Leighton Street, Atherton (postcode M46 0JP)?
2. Of these HMOs, how many are currently contracted to Serco, the Home Office, or any other provider for asylum seeker accommodation?
3. If the Council does not hold this information, please confirm which organisation holds it (e.g. Serco AASC or the Home Office) and provide contact details.

RESPONSE

1. There are 5x licensed HMOs within 500 metres of Leighton Street, Atherton.
2. We are unable to confirm how many of these licensed HMOs are licensed by Serco. This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 38 (1)(b) states that information is exempt if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, endanger the safety of any individual. To disclose these details, could then put at risk the safety of vulnerable individuals by sharing their address.

As this is 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 these details and clearly outweighs the public interest in the transparency of information.

3. The Home Office hold information to confirm which properties are used for asylum seeker accommodation. Contact details for the Home Office are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office>