



REQUEST 19052

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) regarding the housing of asylum seekers within the borough, specifically in Atherton and the surrounding area.

In accordance with my rights under the FOIA, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

1. Council and Social Housing Allocations

NIL

How many asylum seekers have been housed in council-owned housing and social housing properties within the borough over the last five years?

Under which statutory powers or duties have these allocations been made? (For example, the Housing Act 1996, Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, or any relevant Home Office accommodation schemes.)

2. Use of Private Landlords or Housing Associations

Is the council currently working with, commissioning, or contracting private landlords, housing associations, or other providers to house asylum seekers?

No

If so, please specify which landlord groups or organisations are involved, and under which legislative or contractual framework these arrangements operate.

3. Local Housing Prioritisation

Please provide details of the council's housing allocation policy, including how applicants are prioritised, with reference to any statutory obligations such as the Localism Act 2011, the Housing Act 1996 Part VI, and any locally adopted criteria.

Please see attached link to Wigan Council's Allocations Policy [Allocations policy](#)

Specifically, does the council give priority to individuals or families with a local connection, such as those born or long-term resident in Atherton and surrounding areas?

How does the council ensure that local residents are not disadvantaged by the accommodation of asylum seekers through national or regional schemes?