



## Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please provide the following information for the years 2023, 2024 and 2025 - please break everything down by years:

1. The number of individuals and households supported by the council under the “No Recourse to Public Funds” (NRPF) condition.
2. The total annual cost to the council of providing support to individuals or households with NRPF status.
3. The number of households supported where the need for assistance was linked to:
  - a. An ongoing immigration or visa application
  - b. A pending immigration appeal
  - c. Delays in a Home Office decision
4. The average length of time households with NRPF were supported by the council (if available).
5. The number of families with dependent children included within NRPF support figures.

## Response

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

The Council does not have a duty to support individuals or households under the NRPF condition.

Whilst there are exceptions to this rule, we would have to check each case individually on our case management system. Given there are 1,000s of cases over the years you specify, this would exceed the recommended 18 officer hours stipulated in the Freedom of Information Act.