



## Request

I am submitting a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to gather information regarding the number of individuals and families classified as homeless and placed in “temporary accommodation” throughout the year.

- Monthly Homelessness Data in Temporary Accommodation
- Monthly Counts of Individuals and Households in Temporary Accommodation:

For each month in the past five years (2019-2024), please provide the total number of individuals and households recorded as homeless and residing in “temporary accommodation.”

Include a breakdown of the types of accommodation provided (e.g., hotels, B&Bs, hostels, caravans, shelters).

Please categorise those in temporary accommodation as follows:

- Single parents with children, identifying mothers and fathers separately if possible.
- Individuals without children.
- Family units, classified by family size (e.g., mother, father, and one child; mother, father, and two children, etc.).

## Request

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.

Since April 2019, we have had 4586 placements into Temporary accommodation up until 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

To gain the breakdown of the data required, we would have to manually interrogate the cases, which would be above the time threshold for this request

Some households will move from one placement to another, for example from a hotel into more suitable accommodation once this becomes available, which again would mean having to review any duplications within those 4586 placements.