



Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
NW Leicestershire District Council
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Leicestershire
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Telephone: 01530 454763

Date: 23 December 2020

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 1390

I write further to your email dated 24 November 2020.

Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), explained on our [freedom of information](#) page.

Your request:

My request relates to empty residential properties and homelessness.

I would like to request the number of residential properties within your council area (not limited to council or social housing) which have had no residents for the entirety (or most of) the following years:

- I. 2016/17
- II. 2017/18
- III. 2018/19
- IV. 2019-20
- V. 2020-21

Please specify if this is recorded by calendar or financial year? My preference would be for financial. If you are unable to provide data for the whole year then 4 snapshots at different dates throughout the year should help paint a picture of empty homes in the area.

I would also like to request the number of people declared intentionally homeless within your council, relating to the following periods:

- I. 2016/17
- II. 2017/18
- III. 2018/19
- IV. 2019-20
- V. 2020-21

I would also like to request the number of people declared unintentionally homeless within your council area, relating to the following periods:

- I. 2016/17
- II. 2017/18
- III. 2018/19
- IV. 2019-20

V. 2020-21

I would also like to request any other data used to measure the number of homeless people and/or rough sleepers within your council area, relating to the following periods:

- I. 2016/17
- II. 2017/18
- III. 2018/19
- IV. 2019-20
- V. 2020-21

Our response:

Empty properties

The data has been gathered as 'snapshots' based on accounts with relevant indicators to show the property as empty. Unfortunately we are unable to provide data prior to 17/10/2017.

Date of snapshot	Number of empty properties
17/10/2017	1014
01/01/2018	1054
01/04/2018	1056
01/07/2018	1066
01/10/2018	1072
01/01/2019	1039
01/05/2019	1013
01/08/2019	1012
01/11/2019	956
01/02/2020	864
01/05/2020	959
01/08/2020	971
01/12/2020	877

Homelessness

Prior to 30 June 2020, I can confirm that North West Leicestershire District Council holds the information you have requested. However, the information is already available online and is, therefore, exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the FOIA. All of the data we would provide up until June 2020 is available within the government live data tables:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>

Since 30 June 2020 I can confirm that we have 9 cases where we have reached a decision on the full homeless duty. Of these 3 cases were found to be intentional and 6 were not. However, 9 cases does not reflect the number of homeless cases dealt with over that period simply those that reached the full homeless duty at which point we consider intentionality.

We do not have any other local measures of homelessness over and above those nationally published.

Regarding your final question, we do not have any local measures of homelessness that would complement that statutory returns

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GOING FORWARD

If you are dissatisfied with the information supplied please feel free to contact me on the number above for any queries in relation to this response. Please note that in responding to further enquiries I can only comment on the information contained within this correspondence and cannot provide any further information that may pertain to an additional FOIA request.

Please remember to quote the Authority's four digit reference number given at the top of this email in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the above informal review, you have the right to ask for an internal review. A request for a review whether formal or informal should be submitted within two calendar months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to DPO@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk or the address above.

Further details on our appeals and complaints procedure can be found on our website [here](#).

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at accessicoinformation@ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mackenzie Keatley
Information Governance Officer