

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Housing Benefit

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

You asked:

As of 31 March 2014:

1. How many recipients of Housing Benefit are there within your local authority area?

33,430

2. How many recipients of Housing Benefit are living in properties owned by private landlords within your local authority area?

18,526

3. How many private landlords have tenants in receipt of Housing Benefit within your local authority area?

The number of private landlords that received payments directly to them in the financial year 2013 was 1867.

4. How many private landlords have more than one dwelling with tenants in receipt of Housing Benefit within your local authority area?

The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

5. What was the total Housing Benefit amount paid to tenants in the private rented sector within your local authority area in the last financial year?

£85,369,658.58

6. Can you provide a list of private landlords whose tenants receive Housing Benefit stating a) the number of properties they own with tenants in receipt of Housing Benefit and b) the total income the landlord receives from Housing Benefit

The names of individual private landlords are considered as personal information and as such we are withholding that information since we consider that to be an absolute exemption under section 40(2) (personal data), and this therefore constitutes a refusal under section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The spreadsheet attached provides details of businesses and the number of tenants receiving Housing Benefit.

The legislation allows you to use the information supplied for your own personal use, or for journalistic purposes. If the information is a dataset (which does not relate to the environment), you may also use the information for commercial re-use under an [Open Government Licence](#).

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

Information Governance Manager
Information and Support
Leicester City Council
FREEPOST (LE985/33)
New Walk Centre
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG
e-mail: info.requests@leicester.gov.uk

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

You may also seek independent advice from the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider requests until the internal appeals process of the Council has been exhausted. You are therefore advised to appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.