

Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

You asked:

In response to a recent FOI request the DWP wrote:

"Bedroom size is not defined in legislation and there is no definition of a minimum bedroom size set out in regulations, although as a minimum a bedroom should be able to accommodate a single bed. It is however the landlords responsibility to accurately define the property in line with rent charged."

<https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/2...>

- 1. How many of your tenants do your records show use at least one of their rooms for prayer or for some other form of religious worship?**
- 2. How many of your tenants who use at least one of their rooms for prayer or for some other form of religious worship are in receipt of Housing Benefit?**
- 3. For each the past 3 years, please provide the figures for tenants who have contacted you with details of rooms they have which are used for prayer or some other form of religious worship.**

No records of any kind are held on where our tenants say their prayers. Rumours have been circulated that a room designated for use as a prayer room would not be recorded as a bedroom under the new regulations. This is completely false.

There is nothing in the regulations that allows any room for prayer to be discounted. The regulations only allow a 2nd bedroom for overnight carer's for disabled tenants to be discounted where the carer's main home is elsewhere. Housing benefit (HB) is based on the number of rooms identified by the landlord as a bedroom and therefore we would use this to base the HB decision on.

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.