

From: [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI-17-1046 - Private Rented Sector
Date: 23 August 2017 13:43:59
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your information request of 27 July 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

I am looking to understand the costs of providing assistance to households who have experienced homelessness. This is so I can evaluate the impact of work of homelessness charities.

I would be very grateful if you could please provide the following information. I request this information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

With regards Question 1, 2 and 3 we are interested in placements that discharge homelessness duty.

1. The number of private rented sector offers (PRSOs) made to discharge the authority's duty to homeless households in temporary accommodation that were made by your authority in 2015/16. These are sometimes also referred to by local authorities as 'AST discharge of duty'. Below we refer to these as 'PRSOs'.

Looking for private rented sector offers made in order to discharge all statutory duties owned, so a permanent order as per section 31(2).

None.

2. The amount spent by your authority on the following costs in 2015/16

The amount spent on cash incentives to private landlords to secure their property for use for a PRSO.

The amount spent on tenancy deposits for PRSOs. Please give a breakdown where possible between:

- **The amount spent on tenancy deposits given as a bond, to recover at a later date.**
- **The amount spent on tenancy deposits as a payment that is not intended to be recovered from the tenant at a later date.**

The amount spent on upfront rent payments for PRSOs giving a breakdown where possible between:

- **The amount spent on upfront rent payments given as a bond, to recover at a later date.**
- **The amount spent on upfront rent payments as a payment not intended to be recovered at a later date**

The amount spent on any other payments given to private landlords (for example to cover rent non-payment or void periods) for PRSOs

If it is not possible to separate out costs in such a way, please give the total amount of money spent on the following for securing properties for PRSOs:

- **Cash deposits**

- **Deposits**
- **Rent upfront**
- **Any other payments given (for example to cover rent non-payment or void periods)**

We are interested in placements that discharge homelessness duty.

ACC are unable to provide this information.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **the amount spent on the costs above in 2015/16** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

3. The amount spent by your local authority on the following costs in 2015/16.

- The amount spent on staff salaries to secure properties for PRSOs.

There are no records to show how much staff time is spent purely on the securing of properties as salaries are not recorded or broken down in that way.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **The amount spent on staff salaries to secure properties for PRSOs** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

- The amount spent on any other administrative or other costs involved to secure properties for PRSOs.

For PSL properties - £13,636.66.

NB: For all of the costs in 2 or 3, please include payments made from all local authority budgets, including from the local authorities discretionary housing payments budget. Please do not include costs paid for by housing benefit payments that are covered by the Department of Work and Pensions.

ONLY IF it is not possible to provide the information in 2 or 3 above, please instead provide the following. The below should not be factored in to the calculation of how many hours it would take to retrieve the information in requests 1, 2 and 3 above.

A. The amount spent by your authority on the following in 2015/16 in order to secure accommodation to be used as PRSO, to secure private rented accommodation to use as a prevention or relief action where a household is 'assisted to obtain alternative accommodation in the form of private rented sector accommodation' (referred to below as 'prevention or relief action'), or securing private rented accommodation to use as temporary accommodation for accommodating households accepted as homeless:

The amount spent on cash incentives to private landlords to secure their property for a PRSO, prevention or relief or for temporary accommodation.

Zero, we have not offered any cash incentives to private landlords.

The amount spent on tenancy deposits to private landlords for a PRSO, prevention or relief action or for temporary accommodation, giving a breakdown where possible between:

- **The amount spent on tenancy deposits given as a bond, to recover at a later date.**
£22,583

- **The amount spent on tenancy deposits as a payment that is not intended to be recouped at a later date**

Nil.

The amount spent on upfront rent payments to private landlords for a PRSO, prevention or relief action or for temporary accommodation, giving a breakdown where possible between:

- **The amount spent on upfront rent payments given as a bond, to recover at a later date.**

£8,025

- **The amount spent on upfront rent payments as a payment not intended to be recouped at a later date**

Nil.

The amount spent on any other payments given to private landlords (for example covering rent non-payment or void periods) for PRSOs, prevention or relief actions or temporary accommodation.

If it not possible to separate out costs in such a way, please give the total amount of money spent on the following for securing private rented properties for a PRSO, prevention or relief action or for temporary accommodation:

- **Cash incentives**

Zero

- **Deposits**

Zero

- **Rent upfront**

Zero

- **Any other costs (for example covering rent non-payment or void periods)**

£3274.38

B. The amount spent by your local authority on the follow costs in 2015/16.

The amount spent on staff to secure private rented properties for PRSOs, prevention or relief action or for temporary accommodation.

Information not held

To secure temp accommodation for 2015/16 the staff cost was £572.98.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **the amount spent on staff to secure private rented properties for PRSOs, prevention or relief action** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

The amount spent on any other administrative or other costs involved to secure private rented properties for PRSO, prevention or relief action or for temporary accommodation.

Information not held

For Temp accommodation there are no further administrative costs involved.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **the amount spent on any other administrative or other costs involved to secure private rented properties for PRSO, prevention or relief action** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

NB: For all of the costs in a) or b), please include payments made from all local authority budgets, including from the local authorities discretionary housing payments budget. Please do not include costs paid for by housing benefit payments that are covered by the Department of Work and Pensions.

We are interested in placements that discharge temporary duty, homelessness duty and placements that are made in order to prevent or relieve homelessness.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Grant Webster
Information Compliance Officer

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

ACC handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

Information Compliance Team
Customer Service
Corporate Governance
Aberdeen City Council
3rd Floor North
Business Hub 17
Marischal College
Broad Street
ABERDEEN AB10 1AQ

foienquiries@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Tel 03000 200 292

*03000 numbers are free to call if you have 'free minutes' included in your mobile call plan.
Calls from BT landlines will be charged at the local call rate of 10.24p per minute (the same as 01224s).

www.aberdeencity.gov.uk