

**From:** [Foi Enquiries](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI-17-1483 - Homelessness  
**Date:** 16 November 2017 14:38:07  
**Attachments:** [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request of 30 October 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

**Please can you tell me the number of people who made a homelessness application to your local authority between the dates of November 1st 2016 - March 31st 2017?**

There were 684 homeless applications made during the period.

**Can you also please tell me what action was taken by the Council (i.e. duty to accommodate, no duty to accommodate, etc.) and why?**

The under-noted table provides information on the legal duties bestowed upon the council in accordance with homeless legislation

DUTIES	Totals	%
DUTY TO PROVIDE TEMP & PERMANENTLY REHOUSE	523	76.5%
DUTY TO PROVIDE TEMP, ADVICE & ASSISTANCE	26	3.8%
NO DUTY	135	19.7%
Sum:	<b>684</b>	100.0%

**Please can you also provide a list of the premises the Council uses to accommodate these homeless applicants, along with the type (BnB, hostel, etc.), the owner or operating company of each premises, and the number of people assigned to each one over the period of November 1st 2016 – March 31st 2017?**

ACC is unable to provide you with the list of premises as it is exempt from disclosure. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 39(1) – Health, safety and the environment – Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, endanger the physical or mental health or safety of an individual – of the FOISA.

In making this decision ACC considered the following points:

ACC is of the opinion that Section 39(1) applies to the information specified above, as the information in question concerns individuals who may be vulnerable and/or fleeing domestic abuse. To release the information may disclose their potential whereabouts and may place them in physical or mental danger. As a local authority Aberdeen City Council has a statutory responsibility where they have reason to believe a person is homeless or threatened with homelessness to provide temporary accommodation while they are going through the statutory homeless process. As this includes clients who are vulnerable and/or fleeing domestic abuse it would not be appropriate to name any of the premises used. It would not be appropriate to release this information into the public domain.

**Please could you also list the amount of money given to each property, company owner and/or company operator in the same period?**

We are not able to provide the information for each property for the reasons set out above.

We can provide the spend for each type of accommodation which is listed below. Hostel 1, 2, 3 and 4 are all owned by Aberdeen City Council.

The staff budget is held separately, therefore it is listed separately in this response.

Due to payment/invoice processes these may not match when households were in these types of accommodation.

<b>Premises 1/11/16 to 31/3/17</b>	
B&B 1	78,900.00
B&B 2	43,615.00
B&B 3	40,705.00
Hotel 1	6,929.66
Hotel 2	3,457.50
Hostel 1	156,191.00
Hostel 2	77,234.27
Hostel 3	82,243.51
Hostel 4	3,559.89
Staff for hostels	466,089.35

**Please could you also provide a current list of properties that your local authority uses to house homeless applicants, along with the type (BnB, hostel, hotel, guest house etc.), the owner or operating company of each premises, and the number of homeless applicants assigned to each one over the previous 5 years?**

ACC is unable to provide you with the list of premises as it is exempt from disclosure. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 39(1) – Health, safety and the environment – Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, endanger the physical or mental health or safety of an individual – of the FOISA.

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**Please could you provide a list of the total amount of money given to each property, company owner and/or company operator used to provide homelessness accommodation over the previous 5 years?**

We are not able to provide the information for the reasons set out above.

Establishments 1 to 17 are B&B or Hotel accommodation. I have inserted an 'other/unable to split line' for any that does not give details of the establishment name or they are combined figures.

Establishments 19 to 22 are hostels owned by Aberdeen City Council and all costs have been provided. From 2015/16 staff costs were removed from individual hostels & applied to a central code – costs at bottom of the table.

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Establishment 1			996.00		
Establishment 2	4,094.50				
Establishment 3				490.00	
Establishment 4	36,395.00				
Establishment 5	47,285.00				
Establishment 6	62,475.00			340.14	
Establishment 7	14,000.00			1,517.47	
Establishment 8					6,929.66
Establishment 9	12,600.00	940.00			
Establishment 10				874.75	
Establishment 11				3,391.38	
Establishment 12				3,960.07	
Establishment 13				196.56	
Establishment 14				81.15	
Establishment 15	84,390.00	85,180.00	86,890.00	73,865.00	93,785.00
Establishment 16	125,591.60	117,126.00	120,010.00	156,061.40	142,080.00
Establishment 17	52,197.00	51,510.00	55,369.99	57,001.75	57,042.00
Other/unable to split	247,100.57	14,950.00	0.00	640.50	23,225.00
Establishment 19			87,910.10	96,408.91	206,394.03
Establishment 20	432,989.61	559,152.47	135,702.49	130,349.62	123,406.21
Establishment 21	381,708.36	568,247.31	116,735.89	136,940.07	128,321.51
Establishment 22	530,178.59	626,313.85	127,078.39	146,278.11	22,459.53
Staffing for hostels			1,156,400.31	1,099,975.90	1,046,742.87

**Can I also ask how many homeless applicants in your local authority have "do not accommodate" included in their file?**

Aberdeen City Council does not record an answer of "do not accommodate" on our system, therefore a manual check of notes would be required for this request.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **how many homeless applicants in your local authority have "do not accommodate" included in their file** as the cost of providing it has been calculated as being in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). To explain this, it would involve an ACC Officer manually accessing the electronic notes of 684 homeless cases and extracting the relevant information. This has been calculated at 10 minutes per file, which equates to 114 hours, at the cost of £1,710 in total.

In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby give notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 12 - Excessive Cost of Compliance - of the FOISA.

ACC would be happy to discuss ways in which you may refine your request, so we can provide some information of interest to you within the maximum cost limits. Please do contact the Information Compliance team, who will be happy to advise you, if this is something you would like to pursue.

Information on where the Council has refused accommodation for applicants can be found in the HL3 returns to the Scottish Government. Details of which are available here:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/RefTables#Publications>

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Information Compliance Team

### **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.

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\*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).

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