

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000974
Date 15 March 2017

Housing

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we request that you provide us with the following information:

1. Do you have any provisions in your housing allocation policy which favour existing local residents e.g. residence criteria for access to register or additional preference for those meeting a residence requirement? If yes, how does it work?

City of Wolverhampton Council operates an open housing register and anyone who applies to Wolverhampton and is eligible will be able to join. Applications will be assessed and placed in one of five bands called emergency, band 1 band 2, band 3 and band 4. Band 4 being the lowest housing priority.

People who live outside Wolverhampton who do not have an emergency or urgent need to be in the City their housing application will be assessed with band 4.

People who have not lived in the City and do not have an emergency or urgent medical or social need to be in the City or has a firm offer of employment their housing application will be assessed as band 4.

People who have lived in the City for more than 2 years their application will be assessed in accordance with the allocation policy based on the information provided and place in one of the five bands.

The residential criteria does not apply to those serving in the forces, bereaved spouses or civil partners of forces personnel for further information refer to the [Allocation Policy](#).

One in four all lettings will be advertised with a preference for applicants with a local connection to the area. Applicants will need to demonstrate and evidence at least one of the following criteria:

- Giving or receiving essential support which is evidenced by professional support e.g. hospital, social services etc. Can be confirmed by medical council advisor.

- Needs to be close to family/child minder for help with child care etc. which is necessary for the applicant to find/remain in work and travelling from one part of the City to leave children at childcare and then travelling on to work/education has cost, time and disruption implications etc. Difficulties must be able to be evidenced.
 - Long term residency – 5 years out of the previous 10.
 - Working in the area where the job includes early starts/late finishes.
 - Children in school in the area
 - Cultural reasons e.g. to be near place of worship, community facilities etc.
2. What is the average rent for social housing including assured tenants of housing associations by property size (2 bedroom, 3 bedroom and 4 bedroom properties)? Please provide the most recent data available.

No of Bedrooms	Average weekly Rent	No of Properties	Average monthly rent
0	58.59	129	244.12
1	71.51	5583	297.95
2	80.05	7260	333.54
3	90.98	8848	379.08
4	99.44	620	414.29
5	106.70	27	444.54
6	111.20	15	463.33

3. What is the average rent for temporary accommodation arranged by the authority under Part 7 Housing Act 1996, by property size (2 bedroom, 3 bedroom and 4 bedroom properties)? Please provide the most recent data available.

All 2 bedroom units are within supported hostel provision.

No of Bedrooms	Average weekly Rent	Average monthly rent
2	138.16	552.64

Self-contained units are 3 bedroom properties which have floating support.

No of Bedrooms	Average weekly Rent	Average monthly rent
3	97.70	390.08

We have no 4 bedroom units