Response from Borough Council of Wellingborough to your request under the Freedom of Information Act.

**William Gomes – Wellingborough Borough Council: Housing and Homelessness**

**Question:** 1. How many people are under Council’s Housing waiting list at present? Would you please specify the age group, gender and the number of minorities, BME community who are in the council's housing waiting list.

**Response:**

See attached sheet

**Question:** 2. Would you please give specify how many people have applied for one bedroom, two bedroom, three bedroom, four bedroom, five bedroom in year 2012-2013?

**Response:**

People do not apply for bedroom space as there requirements are calculated by need within the system database. The current need is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MinBedSize</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>676</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Question:** 3. Please provide number of how many people you have accommodated following the statutory duty under housing act who have been declared themselves as homeless and sissified the homelessness assessment process. Please give number by year starting from January 2012 to December 2013. Please also specify their gender, age group and if possible ethnic identity.

**Response:**

Jan 2012 to Dec = 241

**Question:** 4. Please provide number the people who are in current council waiting list who are homeless.

**Response:**

The is information is not available as more clarification is needed, e.g those who have no fixed abode.
Question: 5. Please share what are the present council policy to address homelessness. And how council is allocating budget for that.

Response:

Council policy relating homelessness is within the housing plan which can be downloaded: http://www.wellingborough.gov.uk/downloads/file/5787/housing_plan

More clarification is needed concerning budget – E.G. overall cost per client, cost of providing officers

Question: 6. Please share the total number of council house and please specify the type of the house and number and area and how many are current empty.

Response:

0

Question: 7. Please provide how much council had spent yearly since January 2012 to December 2013, to build new council house/flat.

Response:

0

Question: 8. According to the Housing Act 1996 (as amended by the Homelessness Act 2002) all Local Authorities must have a Homelessness Strategy in place. What are the homelessness strategy of the Council. Please share the yearly the yearly of starting from January 2012 to December 2013.

Response:

Needs further clarification - Homelessness Strategy is on the website http://www.wellingborough.gov.uk/downloads/file/5787/housing_plan

Question: 10. Under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996 (as amended by the Homelessness Act 2002) Council has certain responsibilities towards people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness. Would you please provide number, age, gender to whom you provided service following the specific law.

Response:

Needs further clarification

Question: 11. How long you take to process housing benefit claim. How many housing benefit claim has been process by the council since January 2012 to December 2013. Please provide number of each year.

Response:

Department Housing Benefit

Question: 12. How much council had spent to pay the employee who are working on homeless issues in council. Please give yearly details starting from January 2012 to December 2013.
Response: Needs further clarification – is this per employee or the overall cost of employees for the housing service.

Question: 13. How many people were successfully prosecuted for housing benefit fraud during year 2012 and 2013.
Response:
Department Housing Benefit

Question: 14. Did council appointed any third party to find out or tackle benefit fraud. If yes, Who is the company and how much council has paid them for the service.
Response:
Department Housing Benefit