

Head of Complaints, Members
Enquiries & Information Governance

Ms Elizabeth Wyatt
[request-376215-43f0fd17@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

Our ref: FOI/ E28082

Ask for: Information Governance

Date: 20/01/2017

Tel: 020 8430 2000

Fax: 020 8430 1504

Email:

information.governance@newham.gov.uk

Dear Ms Wyatt,

Freedom of Information Act 2000
Request for Information: Information Provided
Subject: Out of Borough - Private Sector Discharge Offer

We write with regard to your recent enquiry for information held by the Council under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We trust that the information provided is satisfactory.

For future reference we publish information on our website, including the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme and summary of Freedom of Information requests and responses that may be of help to you in searching for information. Our website is mentioned above.

It is important to note that under the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003 the Council asks not to receive unsolicited marketing communication.

Request

According to a recent FOI I made, last year you made 372 offers of private sector discharge to households to whom you owed a homeless duty (under Section 193 7AA-7AC of the 1996 Housing Act as amended by s.148 (5)-(7) Localism Act 2011).

150 of these were in London but out of borough, and 88 were out of London.

Can I please know:

1. How many suitability assessments you made in that year about the location of a private sector offer you were going to make?
2. How many of the households given offers that were out of borough have dependent children?
3. How many of the households given offers that were out of London have dependent children?

4. Do you know how many of the 187 households who did not accept the offer of private sector discharge applied to social services for housing help?
5. Can I have a copy of any criteria housing officers use when deciding whether the location of a private sector discharge offer is suitable?
6. How many reviews of the suitability of the location of a private sector discharge have you had to make in that year?

Response

1. All offers were subject to a suitability assessment prior to the offer being made
2. 213 of the offers out of borough were made to households with children
3. 85 of the offers out of London were made to households with children
4. The balance between those who accepted an offer and the total number of offers does not necessarily reflect that the offer was refused, due to other mitigating factors such as change of household circumstances and Landlord decisions to withdraw the property in the current volatile market at the point of offer. There are in fact only 6 cases of the 187 that are not currently accommodated under the main homelessness duty of which none have approached Children and Young People's Services for assistance
5. Please find attached a copy of the suitability assessment form
6. During the period November 2015 to October 2016, 62 suitability reviews were received on the grounds of the location of a PRS discharge offer

If you require any further information or are not happy with our response please do not hesitate to contact a member of our team on (020) 8430 2000 or email us at information.governance@newham.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Complaints, Members Enquiries and Information Governance
Newham Council