

Information Rights

Ask for: Information Rights
Email: InformationRightsTeam@newham.gov.uk

FOI Reference: 22937485

Date: 07/06/2023

Freedom of Information Act 2000 **Subject: Five bedroom properties**

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

Request

1. How many 5 bedroom social homes is going to be built in the London Borough Of Newham. (Can you specify this on street or project)
2. I'd also like to know the current average wait time for a 5 bedroom property (years)
3. I'd also like to know the longest registered bidder waiting for a 5 bedroom property (year)

Response

1. The current London Borough of Newham housebuilding programme includes five 5-bedroom properties that are being built in Canning Town. The programme also includes development of 39 4-bed homes and 351 3-bed homes.

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2. It is not possible to provide an 'average' wait time for a 5 bedroom property as this depends on availability of a property and the highest priority case at the time. For information however, our records show no 5-bedroom properties were offered in the last 2 years. The last 5 bedroom property offered was in 2020/21, and the wait time for the highest priority applicant of that property was 11 years and 4 months.

It may be helpful to also know the last offer mentioned above excludes lets for special schemes, decants, successions and management transfers. These types of applicants are normally made direct offers, and will therefore experience far shorter waiting times.

3. This is 23 years, 5 months. As you may know, the register is a choice based system and ultimately applicants can choose not to bid but still be eligible to remain on the register; applicants are not removed from the register for not actively bidding. Much of our temporary accommodation is self-contained flats and houses. Some households are content to live in the accommodation that they have been provided long term - those who have been in their accommodation for a long time could be a reflection of the fact that they have chosen not to bid for other accommodation through our Choice Based Lettings scheme.

Please quote the FOI reference number provided above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be submitted to the contact details given above.

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at: www.ico.org.uk.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of our team at InformationRightsTeam@newham.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Team
Newham Council

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