



Mr Jonathan Boyle

**Email:** accesstoinfo@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk  
**Our ref:** 2979913  
**Date:** 30 October 2019

Dear Mr Boyle

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I can confirm that the information requested is held by Central Bedfordshire Council. I have detailed below the information that is being released to you.

**Q1. *Over the past twelve months, how many people have made a homeless application at Central Bedfordshire Council?***

A1. Between 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019, 1,904 households approached the council under HRA. Of these 1,904 households, 437 households were owed a prevention duty and 407 were owed a relief duty

**Q2. *Over the past twelve months how many people have been provided with interim accommodation pursuant to s.188 (1) of the Housing Act 1996?***

A2. Between 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019, 325 households were provided interim accommodation pursuant to s.188(1) of the Housing Act 1996.

**Q3. *Over the past twelve months, how many people have been provided with interim accommodation pursuant to s.189 (b) of the Housing Act 1996?***

A3. Between 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019, no households were provided interim accommodation pursuant to s.189(b) of the Housing Act 1996

**Q4. *Over the past twelve months, how many homeless applicants have had their personal property protected by the local authority?***

A4. 0

**Q5. *Please state the average length of time that the homeless applicant's personal property is stored by the local authority?***

**Central Bedfordshire Council**

**Please reply to:**

Access to Information  
Community Services  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Priory House, Monks Walk,  
Chicksands, Shefford  
Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

**Telephone:** 0300 300 8301

**Email:** accesstoinfo@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

A5. This information not recorded

**Q6. *Please provide details of the average cost of storing a homeless applicant's personal property?***

A6. This information not recorded

**Q7. *Under what circumstances do the local authority protect the personal property of homeless applicants?***

A7. When it is legally required.

**Q8. *As part of the homeless application process does the local authority expressly ask the homeless applicant, whether they need their personal property protected?***

A8. No, however the requirement to consider personal belongings does form a part of our risk assessment/referral for interim/temporary accommodation.

**Q9. *If not, please state the reasons why not?***

A9. Most applicants go into accommodation where they can take their personal belongings or they are sofa-surfing and do not need storage

**Q10. *Please provide copies of the local authorities' policies regarding homeless applications?***

A10. Any policies related to homeless applications are provided online from the council's website [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

**Q11. *Please provide a copy of the local authorities policy regarding protecting the personal property of homeless applicants?***

A11. We do not have a policy on this.

**Q12. *Please disclose a copy of the council's homeless procedures manual or policy document followed by housing solutions officer at its homeless service centre?***

A12. Please see attachment and links below:  
<https://centralbedfordshire.box.com/s/j119cyc7x3iu8sujb2fzjz3rs07olnk9>  
<https://centralbedfordshire.box.com/s/lcjr06wwa8buzxdhulprwzis775q7eyj>

**Q13. *Please detail over the past three years, the number of complaints that have been made by homeless applicants because of the Council's failure to protect their personal property?***

A13. Nil

Please quote the reference number 2979913 in any future communications.

If you wish to request a review of this response, please contact us either by email ([accesstoinfo@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:accesstoinfo@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)) or in writing to the reply address detailed below.

Access to Information  
Community Services  
Central Bedfordshire Council,

Priory House, Monks Walk  
Chicksands, SG17 5TQ

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:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF.  
Telephone: 01625 545 700

Further information on the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is available through the Information Commissioner's Office website at: [www.ico.org.uk/](http://www.ico.org.uk/)

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Catherine-Anne Gallacher  
Records and Risk Officer