

Information Governance

People, Policy and Performance

Mr John Brown
[request-641134-7f0b502e@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

Our ref: FOI/ E34212

Ask for: Information Governance

Date: 03.03.2020

Tel: 020 8430 2000

Email:

information.governance@newham.gov.uk

Dear Mr Brown,

Request for Information: Freedom of Information Act 2000**Please quote our reference: E34212****Subject: Housing Benefit Payments**

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. You are free to use the information for your personal use only. For future reference we publish information on our website, including our Publication Scheme. 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

How many people have their housing benefit paid directly to their landlord? In last year?

What is the Council criteria for having the housing benefit element paid directly to a landlord?
Eg private tenant

Response

A total of 7639 claimants currently have Housing Benefit paid direct to their landlord.

A total of 9513 claimants had a payment of Housing Benefit made directly to their landlord in the last year.

For private tenants subject to Local Housing Allowance we follow Department for Works and Pensions safeguarding guidance on paying directly to a landlord. We have a form available on our website and as a paper form for claimants to request payments to their landlord.

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/Documents/Advice%20and%20benefits/PayingHousingBenefittoYourLandlordForm.pdf>

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,

Information Governance
Newham Council