



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 23/24-394, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

I am writing to request information regarding housing benefit payments in respect of exempt accommodation (also known as supported exempt accommodation) under the Freedom of Information Act. The following information is to be provided on the sheet labelled Exempt accommodation full data.

- Anonymised details for each individual paid housing benefit claim in respect of exempt accommodation by East Cambridgeshire from January 1, 2017 (or a more recent date if information this far back is unobtainable under FOI cost and time limit rules) to December 31, 2023.
- This information can be provided on a weekly (e.g. Dec 18 – 24 2023) or monthly (e.g. December 2023) basis, whatever is simplest to compile.
- Data should include the following details of the claim:
 - Unique (anonymised) claimant ID.
 - Local authority.
 - Exempt accommodation provider.
 - Payment period the data entry refers to (weekly or monthly, etc. whichever is simplest. E.g. Dec 18 – 24 2023 or December 2023).
 - Total amount paid in Housing Benefit for supported exempt accommodation in the above period (direct to landlord or provider).
 - Total amount paid in Housing Benefit for supported exempt accommodation in period (to claimant).
 - Number of bedrooms in the claim.
 - Type of supported exempt accommodation (if known) (e.g. Mother and baby unit; emergency homeless accommodation).
- Data should include the following details of the property attached to the claim:
 - Unique (anonymised) property ID.
 - Approximate anonymised location (e.g. ward).
 - Property type (e.g. apartment, terrace house, etc.).
 - Number of bedrooms in the property in period (NB: If this could lead to potentially identifiable data, for example if there are only a small number supported exempt accommodations with exactly 10 rooms, then please exclude this information and mark with *).
- If it is not possible to provide information to the above level of detail, please instead provide the following summary information, on the sheet Summary data by provider:
 - Data for each exempt accommodation provider on how many claims are paid and how much money over a payment period by East Cambridgeshire from January 1, 2017 (or a more recent date if information this far back is unobtainable under FOI cost and time limit rules) to December 31, 2023.
 - This information can be provided on a weekly (e.g. Dec 18 – 24 2023) or monthly (e.g. December 2023) basis, whatever is simplest to compile.
 - Data should include the following details:
 - Local Authority.
 - Exempt accommodation provider.
 - Payment period (week and year or month and year, whichever is simplest).

- Number of Housing Benefit claims for supported exempt accommodation.
- Total amount paid in Housing Benefit for supported exempt accommodation in period (direct to landlord or provider).
- Total amount paid in Housing Benefit for supported exempt accommodation in period (to claimant).

Response:

We are unable to provide the initial information requested however can provide the second (alternative) part of the information requested.

Please note for 'Payment period (week and year or month and year, whichever is simplest)' we are only able to provide the total paid.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 23/24-394.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambes.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.