

Freedom of Information Request No. 6935

Received 22/9/2022

Responded 12/10/2022

Request/Response

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I seek access to information regarding affordable housing and overall housing delivery within your local authority area:

Housing Register

1. The total number of households on the Council's Housing Register as at 01 April 2022 *and/or most recent monitoring date.* – 1917
2. The total of number of households/applicants within each of the Council's bands/categories on the Council's Housing Register as at 01 April 2020, 01 April 2021 and 01 April 2022, and a definition of each band/category.

	A	B	C	D
01.04.22	223	466	567	661
01.04.21	268	423	508	625
01.04.20	261	402	470	568

Band A

- Applicants who the Council has accepted as homeless or threatened with homelessness under Part VII of the 1996 Act.
- Applicants in severe need where exceptional circumstances warrant priority in order to prevent homelessness as awarded by the Social Welfare panel.
- Applicants with an overriding medical priority whose current accommodation is having a life threatening or significantly adverse effect on their health as to warrant highest priority.
 - Housing association transfer applicants, living in Rother, who are under occupying family sized accommodation.
- Applicants who live in Rother who need to be moved permanently because there is an urgent and immediate need for major repair or redevelopment of their home.
 - Housing Association transfer applicants occupying an adapted property which is no longer needed and is required by other applicants.
- Applicants resident in Supporting People funded supported accommodation in the Rother area meeting the local connection criteria and assessed as ready to move onto independent living.
 - Priority transfer cases – existing transfer tenants where the Council, in conjunction with the registered provider agrees that emergency priority should be awarded.
 - Applicants where the Councils Private Sector Housing team has deemed the resident's current accommodation to be an imminent risk to life.

Band B

- Households occupying accommodation that lacks two or more separate bedrooms.
- Applicants assessed as having very high medical priority where their current housing is seriously affecting their health.
- Applicants with dependent children living in insecure and unsuitable accommodation lacking or sharing facilities.
- Applicants in high need where exceptional circumstances warrant priority as awarded by the Social Welfare Panel.
- Single homeless applicants who the Council have confirmed as rough sleeping within the district. This will be verified via interview and/or formal confirmation from an external organisation.
- Working households with school age children whom the Council has assessed meets the poverty threshold – see Appendix 7.
- Applicants living in accommodation that has been deemed by Private Sector Housing or the Environmental Health department as containing a “category one” environmental hazard and the property owner is unable or unwilling to remedy the defects - See Appendix 6.
- Applicant who are resident in a refuge in the Rother area and meet the Rother Refuge agreed protocol – See Appendix 13.
- Multiple Needs – Cumulative Band C reasons.

Band C

- Households lacking one separate bedroom.
- Applicants with medium or low medical priority where their current housing is adversely affecting their health.
- Single applicants' resident with parents or other relative and sharing or lacking a bedroom.
- Households living in unsatisfactory housing conditions which the Council deems poses a moderate risk to their health and safety – this will normally be determined by the Private Sector Housing team or the Environmental Health department - see Appendix 6.
- Applicants requiring supported housing, older persons sheltered or extra care housing where there is no other housing need.
- Applicants in moderate need where exceptional circumstances warrant priority, as awarded by the Social Welfare panel.
- Applicants who are the confirmed victims of Anti-Social behaviour in the district and where a move to alternative accommodation would alleviate the hardship. This will be awarded at the discretion of the Council and where there is a supporting recommendation from the Police.
- Applicants placed into temporary accommodation by the Council pending the outcome of a homeless application.

Band D

- Applicants with no identified housing need.
- Applicants who have been found intentionally homeless until they can provide evidence that they have managed and maintained a tenancy for a 6 month period. (By intentionally homeless we mean applicants who have been formally assessed under the Housing Act 1996 Part VII as amended by the Homelessness Act 2002 and found to have intentionally lost their last settled accommodation).

3. The total number of households on the Council's Housing Register at 01 April 2021 and 01 April 2022 specifying Bexhill as their preferred choice of location. **Currently unable to provide**

4. Of those households in question 3 above, how many meet the local connection criteria for being housed in Bexhill.

We do not apply local connection criteria to properties in Bexhill.

5. The number of households on the Housing Register housed in temporary accommodation within your Council's authority area at 01 April 2021 and 01 April 2022.

Information to follow

6. The number of households on the Housing Register who are currently housed in overcrowded or unsuitable accommodation within your Council's authority area at 01 April 2021 and 01 April 2022.

01.04.2022 - 869

01.04.2021 - 803

7. The average waiting times at 1 April 2020, 1 April 2021 and 1 April 2022 for the following types of affordable property in your Council's authority area and Bexhill (if available):

- a. A shared accommodation affordable dwelling;
- b. 1-bed affordable dwelling;
- c. 2-bed affordable dwelling;
- d. 3-bed affordable dwelling;
- e. 4-bed affordable dwelling; and
- f. A 4+ bed affordable dwelling.

Please note the below figures only represent the waiting time of those applicants housed during the preceding year. The majority of which were Band A

01.04.2022

Type / Size	No. of Lets	Shortest wait	Longest wait	Average wait
Sheltered accomm.	40	14 days	5 years	13 months
Studio general needs	2	12 weeks	20 months	11 months
1-bed general needs	64	9 weeks	13 years	13 months
2-bed flat or maisonette	33	7 weeks	7 years	12 months
2-bed house	39	9 weeks	7 years	13 months
3-bed flat or maisonette	1	5 months	5 months	5 months
3-bed house	25	5 months	6 years	14 months
4-bed	3	30 months	8 years	5 years
5-bed	0			

01.04.2021

Type / Size	No. of Lets	Shortest wait	Longest wait	Average wait
Sheltered accomm.	38	3 weeks	7 years	14 months
Studio general needs	3	5 weeks	31 months	11 months
1-bed general needs	47	8 weeks	7 years	14 months
2-bed flat or maisonette	26	17 days	29 months	8 months
2-bed house	39	8 weeks	3 years	9 months
3-bed flat or maisonette	8	8 weeks	9 years	34 months
3-bed house	16	4 months	5 years	18 months
4-bed	3	4 months	12 months	7 months
5-bed	0			

[New Housing Allocations Policy – Rother District Council](#)

Housing Completions

8. The number of NET affordable housing completions in your Council's authority area broken down on a per annum basis for the monitoring period 2021/22 - **112**

9. The number of NET affordable housing completions in Bexhill broken down on a per annum basis for the period between 2013/14 and 2021/22.

1. 2013/14: 51

2. 2014/15: 46

3. 2015/16: 52

4. 2016/17: 58

5. 2017/18: 27

6. 2018/19: 19

7. 2019/20: 73

8. 2020/21: 3

9. 2021/22: 72

10. The number of NET overall housing completions in your Council's authority area for the period 2021/22 - **237**