Reference Number: FOI 101004351617

Response provided under: Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request:

Please provide me with the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Re: Housing Benefit for Specified Supported Accommodation 2018/19

Specified Accommodation as per Housing Benefit regulation 75H, where some of the rules that normally limit the amount of rent covered by a Housing Benefit award do not apply.
Including accommodation provided by a social or voluntary sector landlord where the claimant is provided with care, support or supervision and Housing Benefit from the Council.

1. How many Specified Exempt Supported Accommodation cases are currently receiving Housing Benefit?
2. How many Specified General Supported Accommodation cases are currently receiving Housing Benefit?
3. How many Specified Domestic Violence Hostel cases are currently receiving Housing Benefit?
4. How many Specified Local Authority Hostel cases are currently receiving Housing Benefit?
5. What is the highest eligible gross rent being paid for a Specified Exempt Supported Accommodation case by Housing Benefits?
6. What is the lowest eligible gross rent being paid for a Specified Exempt Supported Accommodation case by Housing Benefits?
7. What is the lowest core rent being paid for a Specified Exempt Supported Accommodation case by Housing Benefits?
8. What is the highest core rent being paid for a Specified Exempt Supported Accommodation case by Housing Benefits?
9. How many Specified Exempt Supported Accommodation cases are currently receiving Housing Benefit for the following eligible rent ranges:
   - £150.00 per week eligible gross - £250.00 per week eligible gross
   - £251.00 per week eligible gross - £300.00 per week eligible gross
   - £301.00 per week eligible gross - £400.00 per week eligible gross
   - Greater than £400.00 per week eligible gross
10. How many Specified General or Exempt Supported Accommodation cases have been referred to the Rent Officer service (VOA)?
11. How many Specified *Exempt* Supported Accommodation cases are being paid where the Local Authority is only receiving 60% subsidy?

12. How many Supported Accommodation claims have received an ‘unreasonably high’ rent decision?

**Response:**

1. Cornwall Council currently has £1,133 Exempt Supported Accommodations that are receiving housing benefit
2. 270 case are general supported accommodations
3. There are 16 cases which are being paid housing benefit in Domestic Violence Hostels.
4. There are 15 cases in Local Authority Hostels
5. The highest eligible gross rent for housing benefit for an exempt supported accommodation is £491.92 per week
6. The lowest gross eligible rent is £77.12
7. Housing Benefit is calculated on the total eligible rent, ie the sum of the core rent plus eligible charges. The housing benefit database does not distinguish between core rent and eligible services.
8. Housing Benefit is calculated on the total eligible rent, ie the sum of the core rent plus eligible charges. The housing benefit database does not distinguish between core rent and eligible services.
9. a) 232 cases (£150 - £250.99)
   b) 111 cases (251 - £300.99)
   c) 389 cases (301 – 399.99)
   d) 20 cases (£400+)
10. 308 cases have been referred to the VOA Rent Service
11. 241 are being paid as being vulnerable and a 60% subsidy is claimed
12. 0 cases are being restricted as being unreasonably high by the Council.

**Information provided by:** Customer Access and Digital Services (Assessments)