

FOI 605/2017

REQUEST AND RESPONSE

Please see answers below in red in response to your recent FOI request.

Could you please send me the following information:

1) Details of extra funding provided to your authority by government to support new HRA duties.

- How much extra funding does your council expect to receive from government to implement the act? **2017-18 -£91843 2018-19 £84128 2019-20 £96685**

- How will your council allocate that funding? For example: will the council engage new staff for extended HRA services (ie additional staff to provide homelessness prevention plans and to liaise with landlords to prevent homelessness as soon as section 21 notices are received)? **1 member if staff appointed, another post being advertised and a 3rd post currently being job evaluated.**

- How many extra staff does your council plan to engage for these purposes in 2018? **As above**

- What assistance will your council offer homeless households to fulfill extended duties to help secure accommodation? **The Council will offer financial assistance to prevent and relieve homelessness as it currently does.**

- Will the council outsource such services, or work in partnership with other partners for homelessness prevention? **No**

2) Will your council enhance or create deposit and rent support schemes to help people at risk of homelessness secure tenancies (NOT counting help available through DHPs).

- If Yes, please give examples The Council has operated a deposit scheme for many years and also has a Homelessness Prevention Fund. **We will continue to use DHP's as well.**

- If Yes, how will homeless households access and secure this support? **All households needing assistance will have their needs assessed by staff.**

3) Does your council plan to acquire extra housing stock/extend arrangements with existing social or private housing providers to increase the number of temporary and permanent properties available to homeless households which are owed new or extended duties? **We are currently working with an advisor from the LGA to look at developing a temporary accommodation procurement strategy.**

4) How does the council plan to extend homelessness prevention advisory services to meet new and extended advisory duties in the act? **By employing more staff and working in closer partnership with the local floating support service.**

5) Protection of property

What form will protection of homeless households' property take (paying for storage facilities, etc). Can the council afford to meet these requirements? **Yes**

6) Is your homelessness service/function contracted out in full or in part to another organisation. If Yes, please give details. **No.**