

FOI REF:	15506
RESPONSE SENT:	12/05/2025

Request

I am doing research into asylum accommodation, and I am interested in the role that local authorities have in inspecting these properties.

It is my understanding that there are several local authority teams that will inspect asylum accommodation properties including, but not limited to, environmental health inspections and HMO licence inspections.

Through freedom of information, I am interested to know the following:

Environmental health inspections

1. The number of inspections carried
2. out on asylum accommodation by environmental health officers in each of a) 2023 b) 2024 and c) the first quarter of 2025
3. A breakdown, by category, of the
4. hazards recorded from these inspections in each of these time periods (for example pests, mould, fire safety risks etc)
5. A breakdown, by category, of any
6. notices issued to the accommodation provider or the Home Office in each of these time periods (for eg improvement plans, remedial instructions, full enforcement action)
7. If held in a reportable format, the
8. number of asylum accommodation properties that have had multiple inspections by environmental health officers in each of these time periods

HMO licence inspections

1. The number of HMO licence inspections
2. carried out on asylum accommodation by the local authority in each of a) 2023 b) 2024 and c) the first quarter of 2025
3. A breakdown, by category, of the
4. hazards recorded from these inspections in each of these time periods (for fire safety risks, gas safety, room sizes, sufficient amenities etc)
5. A breakdown, by category, of any
6. notices issued to the accommodation provider or the Home Office in each of these time periods (for eg improvement plans, remedial instructions, full enforcement action)
7. If held in a reportable format, the
8. number of asylum accommodation properties that have had multiple HMO inspections in each of these time periods

Response

WCC involvement in Asylum seeker accommodation is that the council, at procurement stage agree that a property is suitable, but they are not inspected or licenced, however we are aware of the number of individuals who reside there. The return is therefore nil. I have also confirmed with the Environmental Health team that they have not inspected any accommodation in use by Asylum seekers.

