FOI REF: 15304

RESPONSE SENT: 19/03/2025

Request:

Good afternoon, I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request data on houses of multiple occupancy (HMOs) in your jurisdiction.

Specifically, I would like to request the following information in spreadsheet format, or by email data input, by calendar year from 2019 to 2024. If any individual parts of the questions are unavailable or would exceed cost exemptions, please disregard those parts. Similarly, if your records do not extend to 2019, or doing so would exceed cost exemptions, then please start at the earliest available year. If it is not possible for another reason to provide the information requested, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 15 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

- 1. How many reports of unlicensed HMOs were received, how many investigations of unlicensed HMOs were conducted, and how many were identified. Additionally, if recorded, please also provide the number of those investigations which were conducted jointly with police/law enforcement. In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
- 2. Can you provide an estimate as to how many unlicensed HMOs there are in the council area? (I understand this will be an approximate figure and not exact.)
- 3. Regarding enforcement action taken against unlicensed HMO landlords, please provide the number of fines/civil penalties, management orders, banning orders, rent repayment orders, and/or criminal prosecutions by year over the period. If it is difficult to access this information, then please limit it to just the number of fines and criminal investigations if more readily available. In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
- 4. Relating to the above number of civil penalties/fines and criminal prosecutions for unlicensed HMOs, what was the financial value of the fines ordered to be paid by year over the period, and if recorded, how many prosecutions resulted in criminal conviction? In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
- 5. How many licensed HMOs are there in your area? Please also break this down by year, providing a snapshot of the number of HMO licenses as of 31st December each year, if this is feasible. Alternatively, please provide the number of current active HMO licenses held, and any historic snapshots that you may hold with relevant dates. End of 2019 End of 2020 End of 2021 End of 2022 End of 2023 End of 2024
- 6. How many housing condition-related warrants have been executed in general for all types of housing? Please break this down by year and also by whether the warrant was related to overcrowding or breach of housing notices,

if accessible In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024.

7. If recorded, please provide the same information on housing warrants for HMOs specifically. In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to, my details are outlined below.

Response

- 1. How many reports of unlicensed HMOs were received, how many investigations of unlicensed HMOs were conducted, and how many were identified. Additionally, if recorded, please also provide the number of those investigations which were conducted jointly with police/law enforcement. In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024. Not Recorded.
- 2. Can you provide an estimate as to how many unlicensed HMOs there are in the council area? (I understand this will be an approximate figure and not exact.) Winchester City Council has an area within the borough that is subject to Article 4 conditions that have a number of unlinced HMOs, however this is because the total number occupants does not exceed 4 therefore no licence is required. There is no data to indicate the number of unlicenced HMOs in the borough.
- 3. Regarding enforcement action taken against unlicensed HMO landlords, please provide the number of fines/civil penalties, management orders, banning orders, rent repayment orders, and/or criminal prosecutions by year over the period. If it is difficult to access this information, then please limit it to just the number of fines and criminal investigations if more readily available. In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

2019 - nil

2020 - 1 Civil Penalty

2021- nil

2022 - nil

2023 - 1 Civil Penalty

2024 - nil

4. Relating to the above number of civil penalties/fines and criminal prosecutions for unlicensed HMOs, what was the financial value of the fines ordered to be paid by year over the period, and if recorded, how many prosecutions resulted in criminal conviction? In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

2019 - £0.00

2020 - £1000.00

2021 - £0.00

2022 - £0.00

2023 - £750.00



2024 - £0.00

No prosecutions ended in criminal conviction.

5. How many licensed HMOs are there in your area? Please also break this down by year, providing a snapshot of the number of HMO licenses as of 31st December each year, if this is feasible. Alternatively, please provide the number of current active HMO licenses held, and any historic snapshots that you may hold with relevant dates. End of 2019 End of 2020 End of 2021 End of 2022 End of 2023 End of 2024

31st December 2019 - 55

31st December 2020 - 93

31st December 2021 - 144

31st December 2022 – 177

31st December 2023 - 225

31st December 2024 - 367

Currently 345 licenced HMOs in Winchester.

6. How many housing condition-related warrants have been executed in general for all types of housing? Please break this down by year and also by whether the warrant was related to overcrowding or breach of housing notices, if accessible In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024.

2019 - 0

2020 - 0

2021-0

2022 - 0

2023 - 0

2024 - 0

7. If recorded, please provide the same information on housing warrants for HMOs specifically. In 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024. Not applicable.

