



My Ref: FOI/ 4626
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings are as follows: -

- **Do you collect data on LGBTQ+ identity from applicants for homelessness services?**

Yes

- **Please can you share a copy of your intake/point of entry form and the questions it asks of applicants when they present as homeless (.pdf / word doc format if possible).**

The information is collected on an online case management system in order to report back to MHCLG. We collect the following HCLIC data around LGBTQ+ identity:

- 'Sex' – Response options are 'male', 'female', 'prefer not to say', 'not known/other'
 - 'Sexual Orientation' – Response options are 'heterosexual', 'lesbian', 'gay', 'bisexual', 'other sexual orientation', 'applicant prefers not to say'
 - 'Transgender' - Is your gender the same as the sex you were registered at birth? Response options are 'No', 'Yes', 'Prefers not to say'.
- **Is any specific guidance given to staff around the collection of LGBTQ+ identity data during homelessness application? Please can you share a copy of this guidance or provide a summary?**

The following guidance is provided on the 'Equal Opportunities Monitoring' section of the case management system, where the LGBTQ+ data is collected:

"Collecting, analysing and using equality information helps us to see how our policies and activities are affecting various sections of our communities. In employment and service provision, it helps us to identify any existing inequalities and where new inequalities may be developing and take any action identified to tackle them.

In addition to the nine "protected characteristics" (Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Sex [formerly Gender], Race, Religion or Belief and Sexual Orientation) identified in the Equality Act 2010, we have added categories of Refugees and Asylum Seekers and Language to reflect the full diversity of the district.

We will be grateful if you could take a little time to complete and return this form. Please go through it and tick all the categories that most accurately describe you. All items

identified as H-CLIC will be disclosed to MHCLG as required in the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.”

- **Do any specific policies exist on the collection of LGBTQ+ identity data during homelessness applications? Please can you share a copy of these policies or provide a summary?**
No

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence ‘Complaint’ and address it to:

Barnsley MBC
Information Requests Team
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG
email: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: -

Customer Services Team
Information Commissioner’s Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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