East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2018/494011

For each year: 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2014/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18

1. Number of people known to the authority as statutory homeless, who died that year. (if possible)

For each of the next questions, please provide figures for how much was spent by the council broken down by year: 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2014/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18:

East Lothian Council (ELC) reports homeless statistics to the Scottish Government through the HL1 process: http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/RefTables.

Unfortunately, the requested information is not recorded through the HL1 process in a format which allows ELC to retrieve the answer to the question; there is no case closure reason "death of applicant" or equivalent.

In view of this, under Section 17(1)(b) of the Act, I must formally advise you that ELC has been unable to comply with your request as the information you require is not recorded.

2. For each year how much was spent on: Temporary accommodation including Hostel accommodation, private sector leased by the authority, and those directly with a private sector landlord.

Please refer to the attached "2018-494011 Appendix I.pdf".

The variation in private sector leasing 2017/18 was due to the Provider ending the contract mid November. ELC no longer have monthly fees from them and they also had monies to return to us. We have taken on the properties in the short term until a new provider is tendered for so there is no change in service to clients.

3. For each year how much was spent on: Homelessness Prevention work, including providing advice and assistance to those presenting as being homeless or potentially homeless.

Please refer to the attached "2018-494011 Appendix I.pdf".

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NB: whilst the Homeless Strategy budget appears to have diminished, some grants funding which were originally within the Homeless Strategy budget, have been moved to what is deemed a more appropriate service e.g. Amber Project moved to Children's Wellbeing.

- 4. For each year: The number of total prevention cases each year (e.g. support to enable families at risk of homelessness to stay in their own homes or secure alternative accommodation.)

 Of which:
- a. The number of households where the local authority took positive action to prevent homelessness, enabling them to remain in their home
- b. The number of households where the local authority took positive action to prevent homelessness by helping them obtain alternative accommodation

Information from the Prevent 1 process since its introduction in 2014 is publically available on the Scottish Government website. This means that, for the purposes of this legislation, this part of your request is exempt under Section 25(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 as the information is otherwise accessible. We have, however, provided a link to the relevant page for your convenience:

http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/RefTables/housingoptionsto30sept2017

In addition to prevent 1 cases the Prevention Team in East Lothian will deal with around 400 applicants per year who are not in direct danger of homelessness but who could face homelessness if their circumstances are not improved.