

Nicola Hesketh  
Project and Information Co Coordinator

**Our Ref: FOI3778/NH/02**  
**Please ask for: Nicola Hesketh**  
**Direct dial: 01827 709 587**  
**E-mail: FOImailbox@tamworth.gov.uk**

[name redacted]

29<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Dear [name redacted]

### **Freedom of Information – Request for Information**

With regards to your recent enquiry for information held by the Authority under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Please find the information you requested below with reference in the box to your original enquiry for clarity where multiple answers are required.

#### **Details of Your Request**

1. How many people have been removed from your housing allocations list as a result of changes to qualification requirements following the Localism Act in 2012? Please provide a breakdown for each year since 2012
2. What new qualification requirements for the housing allocations list has the council introduced since 2012?
3. How many new applicants were refused access to the list due to new qualification requirements since 2012?
4. What new criteria was used to refuse access to or remove these people?
5. How many decisions to remove a person from the allocations list were reversed upon review since 2012?
6. How many decisions to refuse a person access to the allocations list were reversed upon review since 2012?
7. How many complaints has the council received for refusing a person access to the housing allocations list since 2012? How many of the decisions to refuse access were reviewed?

#### **The response to your request as follows:**

1. Our new allocations policy was implemented in 2014 in response to the changes in qualification requirements following the Localism Act in 2012. Prior to this our Allocations Policy would not have taken this into consideration as it pre-dated the Localism Act.
2. Applicants who do not qualify for reasons of unacceptable behaviour or former tenant debt
  - i. Homeowners – unless they can demonstrate a housing need, or their circumstances prevent them from securing suitable alternative accommodation
  - ii. People with no housing need
  - iii. Those with no local connection

3. We have not refused access due to reasons of unacceptable behaviour or former tenant debt
  - (1) We have returned 25 applications since the policy went live for homeowners – whilst not refusing access they required further information in line with our policy to determine if they are able to access the register – Information such as confirmation of the house sale and unless we then received this, the application would not have been input.
  - (2) People with no housing need – These can still access the list but will be placed in Band 4
  - (3) Those with no local connection – These can still access the list but will be placed in Band 4
4. **This information is publicly available on the website at:**  
[http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/housing\\_docs/Allocations\\_Policy\\_June2014.pdf](http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/housing_docs/Allocations_Policy_June2014.pdf)  
**therefore it is considered that this information is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 where we are not obliged to provide the information again where it is already publicly available by other means**
5. None
6. None
7. None

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Project and Information Coordinator,  
Tamworth Borough Council,  
Marmion House,  
Lichfield Street,  
Tamworth,  
B79 7BZ

Details of Tamworth Borough Council's internal review and complaints procedure are attached, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Hesketh  
Project and Information Coordinator