

Freedom of Information request 2012-4510

Received 15th November 2012

Published 20th February 2013

Information request

- 1) How many households have been claiming housing benefits in Barking & Dagenham in the last financial year? If you don't have the exact figure you can give me an estimate.
- 2) Can you tell me the ethnicity or the nationality of the households that in the last financial year were claiming housing benefits in Barking & Dagenham?

DWP response

In response to your question please see the attached document (FOI 2012-4510 Response.xls) which gives the number of **Housing Benefit (HB) recipients in Barking and Dagenham by Ethnicity and Caseload Month: April 2011 – March 2012.**

Please note that the information given relates to HB recipients only, which may be a single person or a couple.

More information on HB can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/housing-benefit/overview>

Please also note that the figures have been derived from datasets used to produce National Statistics on HB and the ethnicity of benefit claimants but they have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard.

Information on the ethnicity of HB recipients is only available for recipients who have also been in receipt of, or are receiving, another DWP administered benefit where ethnicity is recorded as part of the claim process, for example Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA). Therefore a significant number of recipients will have an unknown ethnicity. This information should therefore be treated with caution.

You may also be interested to know that the Department now publishes National Statistics on Housing Benefit recipients through a new visualisation tool called Stat-Xplore which can be accessed via the link below.

<http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool> ,

For example to produce statistics on Housing Benefit recipients by Local Authority select the link above and then select **Stat-Xplore for Housing Benefit claimants, region and local authority breakdown**.