

GREATER **LONDON** AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA310720-9663

21 August 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 31 July 2020. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

You asked for:

1. How frequently does the council count or estimate the number of rough sleepers in its area? (e.g. weekly, monthly, annually)
2. If counts or estimates are made in addition to the annual single night autumn snapshot provided to MHCLG, is the methodology the same as that used for the annual single night autumn snapshot in 2019?
3. If not, please explain the methodology.
4. Please provide data on the number of rough sleepers for counts or estimates on or nearest to the first day of each month of 2020 up to and including August.
5. Please provide the latest data on those provided with emergency accommodation by the council as part of the Covid-19 pandemic response. This data should include people who were sleeping rough, in shared sleeping sites, and who became vulnerable to rough sleeping during the pandemic.

Our response to your request is as follows:

1 – 4: Whilst local authorities in London conduct regular ‘street counts’ and estimates of the number of people sleeping rough in their borough, the GLA does not conduct counts or estimates. As such, we do not hold the data requested in questions 1 to 4. The GLA does, however, commission the CHAIN database, which is a system used by rough sleeping services in London, and is widely acknowledged as the most complete source of data regarding rough sleeping numbers and demographics in the UK. As part of this service, CHAIN publishes quarterly and annual reports which include the numbers of people seen sleeping rough in London in the relevant period. These reports are publicly available on the London Datastore:

<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/chain-reports?q=chain>

5. At 31 July (the date of the request):

Total number of people provided with emergency accommodation at some point	1,630
Of which, number evicted	103
Of which, number left of own accord	211
Of which, number moving to longer-term accommodation	434

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely


Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>