

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA120721-8021

27 August 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 10 July 2021. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

You asked for:

Please can I request the number of people who have been vaccinated with the Covid-19 vaccine, who are either recorded as rough sleepers in your local authority, or housed in each of the following accommodation types commissioned by your council:

- *Accommodation for homeless people, including hostels and supported accommodation for people identified as rough sleeping or with a history of rough sleeping*
- *Temporary accommodation commissioned by the local authority*
- *Supported accommodation for homeless young people*

Please can you separate this data into those who have received their first vaccine dose, and those who have received both vaccine doses. Please can this data cover the period 1 January through 1 July 2021.

Our response to your request is as follows:

The attached report was produced via the Combined Homelessness and Information Network (CHAIN) database on 21 July 2021 and summarises the number of COVID-19 vaccination timeline events between 1 January 2021 – 1 July 2021. The data is split into two tables: vaccination status (Dose 2/Dose 1/No vaccination) of people seen rough sleeping in London by the number of timeline events; and vaccination status of people staying in GLA-commissioned emergency COVID-19 accommodation.

The table for people seen rough sleeping in London is divided into those with 3 or more timeline events recorded, and those with fewer than 3 events recorded. Contact with the latter group is minimal, and services will have found it very challenging to engage with these individuals on the subject of vaccination. The transient nature of those on the street, as well as difficulties engaging this group in vaccination, are contributing factors to the above.

CHAIN is a database which allows rough sleeper outreach teams, and some other services working with people experiencing homelessness, for operational purposes to access information to provide continuity of support. It may hold some details about an individual's health status, but it is not a health record.

A timeline event is an activity recorded by a service which is supporting a rough sleeper, with access to and permission to record such events on CHAIN. Such events can include an activity relating to contact with the rough sleeper, accommodation stays, and support-related activity such as financial, employment, immigration, offending/legal support, assessments, and other forms of casework.

For the reasons set out below CHAIN event data should not be used to estimate COVID-19 vaccine uptake:

- Any single COVID-19 vaccination (first or second dose) is recorded as an event on CHAIN. This is either self-reported by the vaccine recipient or is recorded by a member of staff supporting that individual based on observation of them receiving their vaccination. This is not the equivalent of a GP record, which holds information recorded by health professionals about each dose of vaccine administered. CHAIN event vaccination data is therefore not a measure of the actual number of doses delivered to rough sleepers in London.
- Many services that might be aware of or involved in supporting an individual to receive a vaccination do not have access to CHAIN, and not all those services that do have access to CHAIN have been asked to record vaccinations. No health services have input access into CHAIN. Therefore, the vaccination status data on CHAIN covers only a proportion of locations and activity across the vaccination programme with the homeless population in London.

Given the above, it is important to note this data is not an accurate record of vaccination status, and therefore is not representative of vaccine uptake among the homeless population in London should not be used to estimate uptake of the vaccine.

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

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
Housing and Land

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: [Freedom of information | London City Hall](#)

Covid-19 vaccination status of people seen rough sleeping in London, or staying at GLA commissioned accommodation, 1 January 2021-30 June 2021

The table for 'People seen rough sleeping in London' is divided into those with 3 or more Events recorded, and those with fewer than 3 Events recorded.

	3+ timeline events recorded (all time)						1-2 timeline events recorded (all time)					
	Total	Both doses		First dose only		No vaccination	Total	Both doses		First dose only		No vaccination
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.
People seen rough sleeping in London*	1295	42	3%	66	5%	1187	152	0	0%	0	0%	152

	Total	Both doses		First dose only		No vaccination
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.
People staying in GLA commissioned Covid-19 emergency accommodation or NSNO staging posts^	1355	250	18%	250	18%	855

* across all settings other than GLA-commissioned accommodation

^ No Second Night Out Staging Posts are specialist accommodation settings for individuals with an identified offer of accommodation. Between March 2020 and July 2021 they have been used to accommodate individuals with higher support needs