

**Freedom of Information request:** Reference number FOI2026/00432

**Date of request:** 16th April

**Request:**

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request: Please provide any information you hold about houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) or similar large residential buildings within your local authority area that can accommodate 50 occupants or more and are presently vacant or available for lease or to purchase. If possible, please supply:

- The number of such properties currently recorded by the council.
- Their addresses or a list of the wards/areas where they are located.
- Any relevant details on ownership or licensing status (for example, whether they are licensed as HMOs and whether they are council-owned or privately owned).

I would prefer to receive the information by email. If you need me to refine or clarify this request, please let me know as soon as possible.

**Response:**

London Fire Brigade (LFB) does not hold the information you have requested. As a fire and rescue service, LFB is not responsible for maintaining records of houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) or their occupancy status.

The information you are seeking would typically be held by the local authority housing departments or planning departments across London's 32 boroughs and the City of London. Each borough maintains its own HMO licensing scheme and property records. <https://www.gov.uk/renting-out-a-property/houses-in-multiple-occupation-hmo>

For information about HMOs that can accommodate 50 or more occupants, including their availability, location, and ownership status, I would recommend contacting the relevant London borough councils directly. Each borough will have a housing department that manages HMO licensing and maintains records of such properties within their jurisdiction.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request on our website: <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/>