

From: Stephanie Payne
Sent: 01 February 2011 12:17
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI 1/11 (registration of homeless people)

FOI 1/11

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 dated 15 January 2011 (received by the Electoral Commission on 17 January).

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is in bold below followed by our response.

You have requested:

Please disclose

The number of homeless people registering to vote in each year since 2001.

I would like the response to include an assessment of the proportion of homeless people who remained unregistered in each year and, for the latest year for which figures are available, a breakdown according to constituencies.

Our response is:

People who are homeless or who have no fixed address (for example, a person whose home is mobile) may register to vote using a 'declaration of local connection.' Since 2005 the Office for National Statistics has collated information from Electoral Registration Officers in England and Wales as to the number of this type of registration as part of its annual collection of statistics relating to electoral registration. The figure for each year is shown in the table below, and relates to the electoral register for 1 December of that year. This information was not collated before 2005 and we do not hold information for Scotland or Northern Ireland (except for Scotland in 2009, see below). It should be noted that not all electors registered using a 'declaration of local connection' are necessarily homeless.

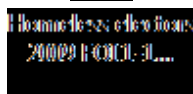
Year (1 Dec)	Number of electors registered as homeless / having no permanent address in England and Wales
2005	233
2006	324
2007	122
2008	384
2009	546

We hold information from the General Registry Office of Scotland that shows that there were 27 entries on the December 2009 electoral registers in Scotland classified as of "no permanent address, homeless or voluntary patients." However, it is not possible to separate this category out in such a way as to show only electors who were homeless / had no permanent address.

Any information relevant to this request in respect of Northern Ireland will be held by the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland and the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland (EONI). Contact details for EONI are available on this page of their website:

<http://www.eoni.org.uk/index/contact-us.htm>

We have not made any estimates as to the proportion of homeless people who are/were unregistered at any time and do not hold any estimates made by others. We do hold a geographical breakdown of the most recent available figures for the number of electors who were homeless /had no permanent address, which are for December 2009. However, these are by local authority, not constituency as requested. They are attached to this response.



In 2005 we produced a report called 'Understanding electoral registration,' which used electoral registers and census data from 2001 to make estimates of the rate of non-registration. Table 16 contains a number of estimates relating to specific sections of the population, but no estimate was made for homeless people.

http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/47252/Undreg-FINAL_18366-13545_ENSW.pdf

I hope that this information satisfies your request. If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at:

<http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information-requests/how-do-i-make-an-foi-request>

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website:
<http://www.ico.gov.uk>

The Commission's Media Team can be contacted by [email](#) or telephone (020 7271 0704).

Yours sincerely

Stephanie Payne

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Number of entries on the electoral registers classified as 'no permanent address or homeless,' December 2009

Constituent countries; counties, London boroughs and districts in England; unitary authorities in Wales.

Source: The Office for National Statistics

		No permanent address or homeless
ENGLAND and WALES		546

ENGLAND		519
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NORTH EAST		8
	County Durham UA	5
	<i>former districts of:</i>	
	<i>Chester-le-Street</i>	..
	<i>Derwentside</i>	..
	<i>Durham</i>	..
	<i>Easington</i>	..
	<i>Sedgefield</i>	..
	<i>Teesdale</i>	..
	<i>Wear Valley</i>	..
	Darlington UA	1
	Hartlepool UA	1
	Middlesbrough UA	0
	Northumberland UA	0
	<i>former districts of:</i>	
	<i>Alnwick</i>	..
	<i>Berwick-upon-Tweed</i>	..
	<i>Blyth Valley</i>	..
	<i>Castle Morpeth</i>	..
	<i>Tynedale</i>	..
	<i>Wansbeck</i>	..
	Redcar and Cleveland UA	0
	Stockton-on-Tees UA	0
	Tyne and Wear (Met. County)	1
	Gateshead	0
	Newcastle upon Tyne	0
	North Tyneside	1
	South Tyneside	0
	Sunderland	0

NORTH WEST		24
	Blackburn with Darwen UA	1
	<i>Blackpool UA</i>	1
	<i>Cheshire East UA</i>	0
	<i>former districts of:</i>	
	<i>Congleton</i>	..
	<i>Crewe and Nantwich</i>	..
	<i>Macclesfield</i>	..
	<i>Cheshire West and Chester UA</i>	0
	<i>former districts of:</i>	
	Chester	..
	Ellesmere Port and Neston	..
	Vale Royal	..
	<i>Halton UA</i>	0
	<i>Warrington UA</i>	0
	<i>Cumbria</i>	3
	<i>Allerdale</i>	0
	<i>Barrow-in-Furness</i>	0
	<i>Carlisle</i>	1
	<i>Copeland</i>	0
	Eden	2
	South Lakeland	0
	Greater Manchester (Met. County)	5
	Bolton	1
	Bury	0
	Manchester	3
	Oldham	0
	Rochdale	0
	Salford	0
	Stockport	0
	Tameside	0
	<i>Trafford</i>	1
	<i>Wigan</i>	0

Lancashire	13
Burnley	0
Chorley	0
Fylde	0
Hyndburn	0
Lancaster	2
Pendle	1
Preston	0
Ribble Valley	0
Rossendale	0
South Ribble	0
West Lancashire	0
Wyre	10
Merseyside (Met. County)	1
Knowsley	0
Liverpool	0
St. Helens	0
Sefton	0
Wirral	1

YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	18
East Riding of Yorkshire UA	0
Kingston upon Hull, City of UA	0
North East Lincolnshire UA	0
North Lincolnshire UA	0
York UA	2
North Yorkshire	3
Craven	1
Hambleton	0
Harrogate	0
Richmondshire	0
Ryedale	0
Scarborough	2
Selby	0
South Yorkshire (Met. County)	7
Barnsley	0
Doncaster	0
Rotherham	1
Sheffield	6

<i>West Yorkshire (Met. County)</i>	6
Bradford	4
Calderdale	0
Kirklees	2
Leeds	0
Wakefield	0

EAST MIDLANDS		83
Derby UA		2
<i>Leicester UA</i>		0
<i>Nottingham UA</i>		3
<i>Rutland UA</i>		0
<i>Derbyshire</i>		12
<i>Amber Valley</i>		0
<i>Bolsover</i>		0
<i>Chesterfield</i>		0
<i>Derbyshire Dales</i>		0
Erewash		2
High Peak		10
North East Derbyshire		0
South Derbyshire		0
<i>Leicestershire</i>		17
<i>Blaby</i>		0
<i>Charnwood</i>		17
<i>Harborough</i>		0
<i>Hinckley and Bosworth</i>		0
<i>Melton</i>		0
<i>North West Leicestershire</i>		0
Oadby and Wigston		0
Lincolnshire		2
Boston		0
East Lindsey		0
Lincoln		0
North Kesteven		0
South Holland		1
South Kesteven		0
West Lindsey		1

Northamptonshire	38
<i>Corby</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Daventry</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>East Northamptonshire</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Kettering</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Northampton</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>South Northamptonshire</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Wellingborough</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Nottinghamshire</i>	<i>9</i>
Ashfield	0
Bassetlaw	8
Broxtowe	0
Gedling	1
<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Newark and Sherwood</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Rushcliffe</i>	<i>0</i>

WEST MIDLANDS		121
Herefordshire, County of UA		0
Shropshire UA		2
<i>former districts of:</i>		
<i>Bridgnorth</i>		<i>..</i>
<i>North Shropshire</i>		<i>..</i>
<i>Oswestry</i>		<i>..</i>
<i>Shrewsbury and Atcham</i>		<i>..</i>
<i>South Shropshire</i>		<i>..</i>
Stoke-on-Trent UA		0
Telford and Wrekin UA		4
Staffordshire		16
<i>Cannock Chase</i>		<i>0</i>
<i>East Staffordshire</i>		<i>0</i>
<i>Lichfield</i>		<i>1</i>
<i>Newcastle-under-Lyme</i>		<i>1</i>
<i>South Staffordshire</i>		<i>2</i>
<i>Stafford</i>		<i>7</i>
<i>Staffordshire Moorlands</i>		<i>1</i>
<i>Tamworth</i>		<i>4</i>

Warwickshire	27
North Warwickshire	0
Nuneaton and Bedworth	1
Rugby	25
Stratford-on-Avon	1
Warwick	0
West Midlands (Met. County)	70
Birmingham	3
Coventry	1
Dudley	1
Sandwell	0
Solihull	59
Walsall	6
Wolverhampton	0
Worcestershire	2
Bromsgrove	0
Malvern Hills	0
Redditch	0
Worcester	0
Wychavon	2
Wyre Forest	0

EAST		40
Bedford UA		0
<i>former district of:</i>		
<i>Bedford</i>		..
Central Bedfordshire UA		2
<i>former districts of:</i>		
<i>Mid Bedfordshire</i>		..
<i>South Bedfordshire</i>		..
Luton UA		0
Peterborough UA		4
Southend-on-Sea UA		1
Thurrock UA		12
Cambridgeshire		3
Cambridge		0
East Cambridgeshire		2
Fenland		1
Huntingdonshire		0
South Cambridgeshire		0

Essex	10
Basildon	0
Braintree	2
Brentwood	0
Castle Point	2
Chelmsford	5
Colchester	0
Epping Forest	0
Harlow	0
Maldon	1
Rochford	0
Tendring	0
Uttlesford	0
Hertfordshire	1
Broxbourne	0
Dacorum	1
East Hertfordshire	0
Hertsmere	0
North Hertfordshire	0
St Albans	0
Stevenage	0
Three Rivers	0
Watford	0
Welwyn Hatfield	0
Norfolk	7
Breckland	0
Broadland	0
Great Yarmouth	0
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	6
North Norfolk	0
Norwich	1
South Norfolk	0
Suffolk	0
Babergh	0
Forest Heath	0
Ipswich	0
Mid Suffolk	0
St. Edmundsbury	0
Suffolk Coastal	0
Waveney	0

LONDON		68
	Inner London	38
	Camden	9
	City of London	0
	Hackney	4
	Hammersmith and Fulham	2
	Haringey	2
	Islington	4
	Kensington and Chelsea	0
	Lambeth	0
	Lewisham	4
	Newham	1
	Southwark	1
	Tower Hamlets	7
	Wandsworth	2
	Westminster	2
	Outer London	30
	Barking and Dagenham	0
	Barnet	3
	Bexley	2
	Brent	0
	Bromley	2
	Croydon	1
	Ealing	5
	Enfield	1
	Greenwich	5
	Harrow	0
	Havering	1
	Hillingdon	4
	Hounslow	0
	Kingston upon Thames	0
	Merton	1
	Redbridge	0
	Richmond upon Thames	3
	Sutton	0
	Waltham Forest	2

SOUTH EAST		78
Bracknell Forest UA		0
Brighton and Hove UA		6
Isle of Wight UA		0
Medway UA		1
Milton Keynes UA		1
Portsmouth UA		6
Reading UA		0
Slough UA		0
Southampton UA		0
West Berkshire UA		1
Windsor and Maidenhead UA		0
Wokingham UA		2
Buckinghamshire		5
Aylesbury Vale		1
Chiltern		2
South Bucks		2
Wycombe		0
East Sussex		10
Eastbourne		2
Hastings		0
Lewes		0
Rother		5
Wealden		3
Hampshire		8
Basingstoke and Deane		2
East Hampshire		0
Eastleigh		1
Fareham		0
Gosport		0
Hart		0
Havant		0
New Forest		0
Rushmoor		0
Test Valley		2
Winchester		3

Kent	6
Ashford	0
Canterbury	3
Dartford	0
Dover	0
Gravesham	3
Maidstone	0
Sevenoaks	0
Shepway	0
Swale	0
Thanet	0
Tonbridge and Malling	0
Tunbridge Wells	0
Oxfordshire	16
Cherwell	2
Oxford	11
South Oxfordshire	0
Vale of White Horse	0
West Oxfordshire	3
Surrey	8
Elmbridge	0
Epsom and Ewell	0
Guildford	3
Mole Valley	1
Reigate and Banstead	0
Runnymede	0
Spelthorne	0
Surrey Heath	0
Tandridge	0
Waverley	4
Woking	0
West Sussex	8
Adur	0
Arun	4
Chichester	2
Crawley	0
Horsham	2
Mid Sussex	0
Worthing	0

SOUTH WEST		79
Bath and North East Somerset UA		10
Bournemouth UA		0
Bristol, City of UA		8
Cornwall UA		2
<i>former districts of:</i>		
<i>Caradon</i>		..
<i>Carrick</i>		..
<i>Kerrier</i>		..
<i>North Cornwall</i>		..
<i>Penwith</i>		..
<i>Restormel</i>		..
Isles of Scilly UA		0
North Somerset UA		1
Plymouth UA		0
Poole UA		0
South Gloucestershire UA		9
Swindon UA		1
Torbay UA		0
Wiltshire UA		14
<i>former districts of:</i>		
<i>Kennet</i>		..
<i>North Wiltshire</i>		..
<i>Salisbury</i>		..
<i>West Wiltshire</i>		..
Devon		14
East Devon		1
Exeter		2
Mid Devon		5
North Devon		1
South Hams		3
Teignbridge		2
Torridge		0
West Devon		0
Dorset		7
Christchurch		0
East Dorset		0
North Dorset		3
Purbeck		0
West Dorset		0
Weymouth and Portland		4

Gloucestershire	9
Cheltenham	0
Cotswold	0
Forest of Dean	0
Gloucester	0
Stroud	8
Tewkesbury	1
Somerset	4
Mendip	1
Sedgemoor	0
South Somerset	2
Taunton Deane	1
West Somerset	0

WALES	27
Blaenau Gwent	0
Bridgend	0
Caerphilly	0
Cardiff	22
Carmarthenshire	1
Ceredigion	0
Conwy	0
Denbighshire	0
Flintshire	0
Gwynedd	0
Isle of Anglesey	0
Merthyr Tydfil	0
Monmouthshire	0
Neath Port Talbot	1
Newport	0
Pembrokeshire	0
Powys	2
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	1
Swansea ²	0
Torfaen	0
The Vale of Glamorgan	0
Wrexham	0

1 At the time of publication, figures for East Staffordshire, Kennet, North Wiltshire, Salisbury and West Wiltshire for 1 December 2008 were not available, therefore figures for 1 December 2007 are shown

2 At the time of publication, figures for Swansea for, 1 December 2009 were not available, therefore figures for 1 December 2008 are shown.