1. The number of households in the council area that are known or believed to be under-occupying their properties by one bedroom, under the terms of the ‘bedroom tax’

Response: 383 properties.

2. The number of households in the council area that are known or believed to be under-occupying their properties by two or more bedrooms, under the terms of the ‘bedroom tax’

Response: 102

3. The forecast average weekly loss in Housing Benefit for tenants who are under-occupying by one bed, due to the ‘bedroom tax’

Response: £16.92 per week

4. The forecast average weekly loss in Housing Benefit for tenant’s under-occupying by two or more bedrooms, due to the ‘bedroom tax’

Response: £30.07 per week

5. Any steps the council has taken, is taking or intends to take to assist affected tenants.

Response: We are working with Housing Associations to identify affected customers; the housing associations are carrying out financial assessments with each of the affected people to establish the affordability of their properties and encouraging people to downsize where possible. We are encouraging people to make discretionary housing applications to seek additional funding to ease the burden. RBWM’s housing allocation policy is also being reviewed to bring it in line with changing legislation.

6. The number of housing tenants the council has transferred to smaller homes so far during 2012/13
Response: This Authority has no housing stock

7. Any data on the number of affected tenants who have informed the council that they plan to move home, or alternatively that they plan to remain in their current abode.

Response: This Authority has no housing stock

8. Any estimate of how many vacant one-bedroom properties currently exist (or are likely to exist in April 2013) (a) in the local council housing stock and (b) in the social and affordable housing stock of local housing associations

Response: We do not hold that information.

9. Any demographic breakdown of the figures provided in response to questions 1) and 2) held by the council – i.e. number of households with a disabled occupant, number of pension-age households etc. The council should provide any demographic breakdown it holds with regard to the figures in question 1) and 2), regardless of the precise demographic parameters.

Response: We do not hold this information.

To clarify, ‘bedroom tax’ refers to the government’s planned cut in Housing Benefit for council housing and housing association tenants who are deemed to be under-occupying their properties, due to come into force in April 2013.