

Number of homeless families being moved from local area doubles in five years



Jimmy Nsubuga for Metro.co.uk

Monday 9 Oct 2017 12:01 am



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The number of homeless families being moved from local areas is increasing (Picture: Getty Images)

The number of homeless families being moved away from their local area has increased by 59% in last five years, according to a new report.

Councils are relocating tenants in temporary accommodation that is further away due to rising rental costs, the study from BBC Radio 5 live's Afternoon Edition revealed.



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Cllr Martin Tett, the Local Government Association's Housing spokesperson, said: 'Councils want to end homelessness by preventing it happening in the first place, but these findings reveal the challenges for communities as housing in their area becomes unaffordable.

'While it is encouraging that the government has indicated it will

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A residential tower block in an area of Southwark (Picture: Getty Images)

The number of homeless households (one person, a couple or a family) being moved jumped from 10,651 in 2012/13 to 16,914 in 2016/17.

The London Borough of Southwark came at the top of the list of the councils who responded to Freedom of Information (FOI) request with 1,143 households being relocated.

The London Boroughs of Harrow and Ealing also revealed they had moved people as far as Birmingham and Glasgow.

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A resident looks out from the back door of a flat on the Heygate housing estate near Elephant and Castle
(Picture: Getty Images)

But the problem doesn't only affect people in London.

The report also found councils outside the capital in places such as South Derbyshire and Trafford were being forced to do the same.



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FOI requests were sent to 383 authorities across the UK, with 267 providing figures.

The authorities said some of the people who were relocated included those who were at risk from domestic violence and registered sex offenders who could not stay in the area.

Temporary accommodation for homeless households, includes a self-contained flat, a room in an emergency hostel or B&B.

You can listen to the full report on BBC Radio 5 live's Afternoon Edition at 13:00 today (October 9).

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