



Homes  
England

Making homes happen

Date: 28/02/2020  
Our Ref: RFI2921  
Tel: 0300 1234 500  
Email: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

[REDACTED]  
By Email Only

Windsor House  
Homes England – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
50 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0TL

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: Request for Information – RFI2921**

Thank you for your recent email, which was processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).  
For clarification, you requested the following information:

Please provide the following information:

*1) information appertaining to the acquisition and disposal of all land and property deals since the inception of the homes England organisation. Information to include:-*

- \* names of staff responsible for the transaction*
- \* names of line managers with oversight and underwriting of the transaction*
- \* details of the provision of financial services, who paid what and when*
- \* reference numbers for OJEU registration for each transaction and details of any exclusions*

We asked for clarification regarding the timescale for the requested information and you confirmed that you are requesting this information from 11 January 2018 to date.

**Response**

We are able to inform you that we do hold the information that you have requested. However, to comply with your request would exceed the appropriate limit for the cost of compliance and is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 12(1) of the FOIA.

Section 12(1) states that public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for Homes England is set at £450.

This covers the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours determining whether the department holds the information, and then locating, retrieving, extracting and collating the information.

OFFICIAL



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We have considered the current wording of your request and in its current scope we have determined that to establish where all elements of the information is held, to locate the information, retrieving the information and extracting the information would exceed the appropriate limit.

Under the terms of the Act we are not obliged to provide any information compiled in the course of our searches prior to concluding section 12 is engaged.

The full text of section 12 in the legislation can be found on the following link:  
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/contents>

### **Advice and Assistance**

In compliance with the Section 45 Code of Practice (Paragraph 14) and to offer advice and assistance under section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you may wish to consider narrowing the scope of your request.

In order to help you narrow your request, we can advise that we do collect general data on acquisitions, but to cross reference the data we do hold with the details of staff and line managers would invoke section 12(1). Under section 40(2) of the FOIA, we are not obliged to release personal information of a third party and therefore if you were to request the data without any personal information you may be able to bring your request under the cost limit.

We would also advise that we publish information on disposals on the following link:  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/863564/Transparency\\_report\\_government\\_land\\_disposals\\_in\\_2018\\_19.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/863564/Transparency_report_government_land_disposals_in_2018_19.pdf).

For guidance on how to structure successful requests please refer to the ICO website on the following link:  
[http://ico.org.uk/for\\_the\\_public/official\\_information](http://ico.org.uk/for_the_public/official_information)

### **Right to Appeal**

If you are not happy with the information that has been provided or the way in which your request has been handled you may request an internal review by writing to;

The Information Governance Team  
Homes England – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Windsor House  
50 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0TL

Or by email to [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

You may also complain to the Information Commissioner however, the Information Commissioner does usually expect the internal review procedure to be exhausted in the first instance.



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The Information Commissioner's details can be found via the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/>

Please note that the contents of your request and this response are also subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Homes England may be required to disclose your request and our response accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

**The Information Governance Team**

For Homes England