



Our Reference:

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

4 March 2015

Dear

**Request for Information**

Thank you for your email dated 4 February 2015 requesting information on the cost of the Help to Buy scheme. For ease of reference your request is below:

*Can you enlighten me as to how much the help to buy scheme has cost to set up, administer and run thus far.*

HTB began in April 2013; however some costs were incurred in the set-up of the scheme in 2012-2013. These costs have been included in the total. The cost of the HTB scheme so far is £19,820,691. This represents expenditure on Help to Buy Agent fees and professional legal fees. This figure excludes staff salaries.

Staff costs prior to April 2013 were absorbed into the existing headcount before the HCA recruited a dedicated HTB team. This makes it difficult to calculate staff costs at that time as salaried staff would have worked on the HTB set-up as well as their other duties. Post April 2013 there has been a dedicated HTB team and our fair estimation of these staff costs would mean the overall approximate cost of the HTB scheme from 2012 to present, including the fees estimate given above, is circa £20,318,491 to £20,693,591.

If you have any questions regarding this response or any further queries you can contact us at the following addresses and quote your unique reference number found at the top of this letter:

**Email:** [mail@homesandcommunities.co.uk](mailto:mail@homesandcommunities.co.uk)

**Mail:** Information Access Officer  
Homes and Communities Agency  
Fry Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

If you are unhappy with the way Homes and Communities Agency has handled your request you may ask for an internal review. You should contact

Head of Legal Services  
Homes and Communities Agency  
Fry Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Naomi McMaster  
Information Access Officer  
Homes and Communities Agency