Date: 04/04/19 Our Ref: RFI2644

Your Ref: FOI Request – Homes Building Fund

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: foi@homesengland.gov.uk



Windsor House 50 Victoria Street London SW1H OTL



RE: Request for Information - RFI2644

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

Please supply a list of all construction companies/builders that have secured funds from the Home Building Fund and the project it will help fund.

Response

We are able to confirm that we do hold the information that falls within the scope of your request, we enclose the information held to this response which is labelled Annex A.

Annex A contains a list of all the legal borrowing entities and project names which have received loans through the HBF since its launch in 2016. This data does not include entities from predecessor funds which were subsequently subsumed into the HBF. The information is correct as at 15th March 2019.

To provide further clarity, Homes England provides a loan to a legal entity, often set up with the sole purpose of ensuring a site is built and monies repaid. Homes England's contractual relationship is with this entity. This entity may include several construction companies/builders or may be set up by organisations who sub-contract the site development to a third party. In many cases, because the fund is targeting SME builders, the borrowing entity is in fact the primary builder on the scheme, however that is not always the case. Whilst Homes England performs a due diligence process to review the viability of the scheme during which the constituent organisations are disclosed and reviewed, releasing these company details would not be in line with the purpose for which the information has been gathered by Homes England.

In addition to the direct lending to a legal entity, Homes England have invested in two lending partnerships one with Barclays and one with Lloyds that manage onward lending to SME builders and other eligible entities. In the case of the Housing Growth Partnership with Lloyds, Homes England does not enter a contractual relationship with the recipient construction company/builder meaning that we don't hold information about these individual organisations. In the case of the Housing Development Fund with Barclays, there have been no schemes that have finalised contracts under this partnership and therefore no information is available.

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 Access Team Windsor House 50 Victoria Street London SW1H 0TL Date: 04/04/19 Our Ref: RFI2644

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Or via email to foi@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.

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,

Information Access Team

For Homes England