

Date: 16/05/19
Our Ref: RFI2682
Your Ref: FOI Request – Voluntary Right to Buy
Tel: 0300 1234 500
Email: foi@homesengland.gov.uk



Homes
England

[REDACTED]
By Email Only

Windsor House
Homes England – 6th Floor
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: Request for Information – RFI2682

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:

I've come across the following FOI response provided by Homes England which I wanted to ask you about:

https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/570354/response/1362895/attach/5/190509%2023%20RFI2673%20Response.pdf?cookie_passthrough=1

Would you be able to clarify exactly what the “applications” figures refer to in this instance? As in...

- Does the data indicate that Midland Heart currently has 436 tenants with live applications for the VRTB, or that Midland Heart has received 436 applications in total since the start of the ballot?*
- And does “applications” mean tenants who were awarded a URN following the ballot, or tenants who received a URN and then contacted their housing association about purchasing through VRTB?*
- Do the figures in the table provided as the answer to question (1) include the 912 cancelled applications referred to in the answer to (2), or have cancelled applications been removed?*

Response

On consideration of your request we have determined that points 2, 3 of your email do not constitute valid requests for information made in accordance with the FOIA. We will therefore provide a response to these points outside of the FOIA.

- Does the data indicate that Midland Heart currently has 436 tenants with live applications for the VRTB, or that Midland Heart has received 436 applications in total since the start of the ballot?*

We can confirm that we do hold recorded information that falls within the scope of point 1 of your request and that Midland Heart has received 436 applications in total since the start of the ballot.

Discretionary Disclosure

As stated above, we do not believe that the points below should be handled in accordance with the FOIA however we are able to respond to this point as general enquiries. Please therefore see below our response to point 2 and 3.

- And does “applications” mean tenants who were awarded a URN following the ballot, or tenants who received a URN and then contacted their housing association about purchasing through VRTB?*

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We can confirm that ‘applications’ mean Tenants who received a URN and then returned an application form to their housing association.

- *Do the figures in the table provided as the answer to question (1) include the 912 cancelled applications referred to in the answer to (2), or have cancelled applications been removed?*

We can confirm that they are included.

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
Homes England – 6th Floor
Windsor House
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

Or by 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