

Date: 19/09/2019
Our Ref: RFI2767
Your Ref: FOI Request – VRTB Pilot
Tel: 0300 1234 500
Email: foi@homesengland.gov.uk



Homes
England

██████████
By Email Only

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

Dear ██████████

RE: Request for Information – RFI2767

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:

Under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), I request the following information:

- 1) *The number of completions through the VRTB pilot up to the most recent possible date, broken down by housing association*
- 2) *The number of completions through the VRTB pilot up to the most recent possible date which involved tenants “porting” their discount, broken down by housing association*
- 3) *The number of completions through the VRTB pilot up to the most recent possible date which involved tenants porting their discount to a home owned by a different housing association*
- 4) *A breakdown of the reasons for VRTB applications being cancelled, eg. Tenant could not afford mortgage, suitable property could not be found*
- 5) *The number of VRTB applications which remain live (not cancelled and not completed)*

Response

We can confirm that we hold some recorded information that falls within the scope of your request. We will address each of your questions below. Please note that this information is correct as at 27 August 2019.

- 1) **The number of completions through the VRTB pilot up to the most recent possible date, broken down by housing association**
We can confirm that there have been 529 completions across 40 Housing Associations. Please see Annex A which is enclosed to this response for the breakdown.
- 2) **The number of completions through the VRTB pilot up to the most recent possible date which involved tenants “porting” their discount, broken down by housing association**
We can confirm that there have been 10 “porting” completions across 9 Housing Associations. Please refer to Annex A for the breakdown.
- 3) **The number of completions through the VRTB pilot up to the most recent possible date which involved tenants porting their discount to a home owned by a different housing association**
We can confirm that there have been 0 “porting” completions to a different Housing Associations.

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4) A breakdown of the reasons for VRTB applications being cancelled, eg. Tenant could not afford mortgage, suitable property could not be found

We can confirm that records show the following reason(s);

- Did not pass eligibility checks
- Property excluded from the sale & applicant declined of to port their discount to another property
- Withdraw due to responsibilities of homeownership and/or terms and conditions of the scheme
- Unable to secure funding for purchase
- Entered in error
- Suspended due to fraud
- Other occupying tenant did not consent to property sale

5) The number of VRTB applications which remain live (not cancelled and not completed)

We can confirm that there are 2463 live VRTB applications.

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