



Homes
England

Date: 18 January 2021
Our Ref: RFI3262
Tel: 0300 1234 500
Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

Making homes happen

██████████
By Email Only

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

Dear ██████████

RE: Request for Information – RFI3262

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

*I was wondering if I could file a FOI request regarding planning permission?
It was highlighted by local councillors that they have little power over refusing planning permission for housing developments as they will just be appealed and housing targets used as a reason to grant them regardless of the local population or councillors opinions.*

With this in mind would it be possible to receive information on the amount of planning applications successfully refused for large housing developments (including on appeal) in England in the last year?

Response

I am able to confirm that Homes England does not hold the information detailed in your request. This is because there is no legal or business reason for Homes England to do so.

In order to conclude that the information is not held, we have searched with our Legal team who would have the requested information if held.

The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. The duty under section 1(1) is only to provide the recorded information held.

The full text of section 1 in the legislation can be found here:
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/1>

Advice and Assistance

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 of the FOIA. To comply with this duty we are able to advise that Homes England does not grant or refuse planning permission. Information on our remit can be found on the following link: [Homes England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk).

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We can advise that the information you have requested may be held by our sponsor department, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, who can be contacted via the following:

mhclgcorrespondence@communities.gov.uk.

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

Or by email to 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.

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

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