



Homes
England

Date: 29 January 2021

Our Ref: RFI3290

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 – RFI3290

Thank you for your request for information which we have processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You requested the following information:

Would you be able to provide some statistics on your support for retirement properties?

Specifically around the usage of the Older People's Shared Ownership Scheme and general shared ownership grants for older people (% of older people using them, number distributed in the last year).

Response

We can confirm that we hold information that falls within the scope of your request.

Section 44 – Prohibitions on Disclosure

Section 44 (1)(a) FOIA exempts information from disclosure if its disclosure is prohibited by other legislation. In this case, release of some of the information you are seeking which we hold is prohibited by the Statistics and Registration Services (SRS) Act 2007 and the Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008.

Data held will form part of the 'Housing Statistics' National Statistics publication and cannot be provided until the data has been formally approved and officially published.

We are required to consider your request in a manner compliant with the Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008 further to sections 11 and 13 of the (SRS Act 2007). These sections require producers of official statistics to ensure that no indication of the substance of a statistical report is made public or given to the media or any other party not recorded as eligible for access prior to publication. Although the information requested is not intended for publication in the exact form requested, to provide the information would constitute an 'indication' of the statistics due to be published in the 'Housing Statistics' National Statistics publication as they form part of a subset of published data.

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Therefore, to disclose the information at this date would cause Homes England to violate the provisions of section 13 of the SRS Act and the Pre-Release Access Order to Official Statistics 2008 and as such engages the exemption under section 44(1)(a) of the FOIA.

Section 44 is an absolute exemption which means that we do not have to consider the public interest in disclosure.

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with section 16 of the FOIA therefore, please note that information is provided for shared ownership completions for older people provided through Homes England's Affordable Homes Programmes (AHP) as well as the Department of Health's Care (DoH) and Support Specialised Fund (CASSH) which is administered by Homes England on behalf of DoH. Information on total completions provided across Homes England's various programmes, including the AHP and CASSH programmes, are provided through the Official Statistics which can be found via the following link;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/housing-statistics-1-april-2020-to-30-september-2020>

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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