



Homes
England

Date: 4 May 2021

Our Ref: RFI3400

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 – RFI3400

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

I would like to submit a Freedom of Information Request for the following:

A list of all grants and or subsidies issued by Homes England (be it as successors in titles) between September 2020 and end of March 2021 relating to Devon.

Response

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 the information you are seeking is prohibited by the Statistics and Registration Services (SRS) Act 2007 and the Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008.

Data for September 2020 to March 2021 will form part of the 'Housing Statistics' National Statistics publication routinely published every six months 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.

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.

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Advice and Assistance

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 FOIA. As such we can advise that the data for the period requested is expected to be published in July 2021, though this is not certain. The Section 44 exemption will apply until this publication date and therefore we advise you submit any future request after this date.

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. You can request an internal review by writing to Homes England via the details below, quoting the reference number at the top of this letter.

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

The Information Governance Team
Homes England – 6th Floor
Windsor House
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

Your request for review must be made in writing, explain why you wish to appeal, and be received within 40 working days of the date of this response. Failure to meet this criteria may lead to your request being refused.

Upon receipt, your request for review will be passed to an independent party not involved in your original request. We aim to issue a response within 20 working days.

You may also complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) 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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