

By Email Only

Date: 12 July 2021 Our Ref: RFI3502 Tel: 0300 1234 500 Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk Making homes happen

Windsor House Homes England – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor 50 Victoria Street London SW1H 0TL

Dear

## RE: Request for Information – RFI3502

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

### I am looking for assistance on

Whether you can advise whether the contract between Homes England and Target includes minimum resolution periods with complaints and also redemption processes.

#### **Response**

We are 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 Help to Buy 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 can confirm that the contract does not contain details on resolution periods for complaints and redemption processes. Further to this we can advise that timescales are contained in separate policy and process documents. Please find a copy of the initial contract between Homes and Communities Agency and Target at the following link: <u>RFI3085 - Target Servicing.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)</u>. Homes England was launched by the Secretary of State on 11 January 2018 and is the trading name of Homes and Communities Agency (the legal entity).



# Making homes happen

Date: 12 July 2021 Our Ref: RFI3502 Tel: 0300 1234 500 Email: infogov@homesengland.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. 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 – 6<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="https://ico.org.uk/">https://ico.org.uk/</a>

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