



Homes
England

Date: 8 September 2021

Our Ref: RFI3570

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

Making homes happen

By Email Only

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

Dear

RE: Request for Information – RFI3570

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

You requested the following information:

Can you please let me know the number of developments Homes England are supporting developer funding, through the Help to Buy scheme on the Isle of Wight.

If possible, the location of the sites.

Response

We can confirm that Homes England does not hold the information detailed in your request.

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 are able to confirm that the HTB scheme does not provide “support” or “funding” directly to developers. The Help to Buy Equity Loan scheme allows homebuyers to borrow an Equity Loan of up to 20% (and 40% in London) from the Government towards the purchase price of a newly built home. Therefore, in regard to any funding provided to developers from the Help to Buy scheme, we do not hold the information requested as this is not the nature of the HTB product.

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The number of Equity Loans provided to purchasers (not developers) for homes in the Isle of Wight can be found in Table 1 LA, of the Official Statistics release on the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/help-to-buy-equity-loan-scheme-data-to-31-march-2021>.

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
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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