

Date: 18 July 2022 Our Ref: RFI3947 & RFI3948 Tel: 0300 1234 500 Email: <u>infogov@homesengland.gov.uk</u>

By Email Only

Making homes happen

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

Dear

RE: Request for Information – RFI3947 & RFI3948

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:

RFI3947: Please can you provide the details of all UK councils affordable homes policies including the percentage breakdown of affordable and owner occupied

RFI3948: Please can you provide all UK councils affordable homes percentages that they have agreed to build

Response

We can 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.

To conclude that the information is not held, we have searched with our Affordable Housing 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 Homes England does not collect data on council policies and their future plans. We therefore advise that you contact the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities via the below link as

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local councils are required to submit an annual Local Authority Housing statistics (LAHS) return which may include some of the information detailed in your requests.

<u>How to make a freedom of information (FOI) request: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) - https://www.gov.uk/make-a-freedom-of-information-request</u>

However, if there are specific local councils that you are enquiring about, we can further advise that you make a Freedom of Information request to the individual local councils for the information if it is not already available on their individual websites.

<u>Right to Appeal</u>

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 oTL

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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