



Homes  
England

Making homes happen

Date: 21 September 2022

Our Ref: RFI4046

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

██████████  
By Email Only

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

Dear ██████████

**RE: Request for Information – RFI4046**

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:

*Since the Right to Build Scheme launched in June 2022, can you please provide statistical data as follows:*

- 1) Number of applications to the loan fund by age, gender and race.*
- 2) Number of approved applications by age, gender and race.*
- 3) Number of applications turned down by age, gender and race.*
- 4) How many applications have been turned down as a result of fraudulent activity.*
- 5) Can you also provide broad data on why the other applications were turned down: ie: incorrectly completed application, no planning permission etc etc.*

We asked for clarification regarding your request and you responded as follows:

*please ignore the typo in my original email - this is a request for data on Help to Build (not Right to Build).*

**Response**

We can confirm that we do hold the requested information. We will address each of your questions in turn. Please note that we have provided data for both applications and applicants, as the funding schemes allows for multiple applicants on an application.

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However, we can confirm that Homes England does not hold some of 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 Help to Build 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 in relation to gender and race, this information is provided voluntarily and as such we do not hold data for *all* applicants.

#### ***1) Number of applications to the loan fund by age, gender and race.***

We can confirm that there have been 26 applications to the Help to Build loan fund. Please see table below which shows applicant data.

Age Group	No. Applicants	Gender	No. Applicants	Race	No. Applicants
18 - 25	1	Male	5	Asian or Asian British	5
26 - 35	6	Female	3	Black, African, Caribbean or Black British	1
36 - 45	12			Prefer not to say	1
46 - 55	8			White	1
56 -64	7				
65+	0				

#### ***2) Number of approved applications by age, gender and race.***

We can confirm that one application was approved, which had 2 applicants in the 26-35 age grouping. We do not hold gender and race data.



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**3) Number of applications turned down by age, gender and race.**

We can confirm that there have been 19 applications rejected. Please see table below which shows applicant data.

Age Group	No. Applicants	Gender	No. Applicants	Race	No. Applicants
18 - 25	1	Male	3	Asian or Asian British	2
26 - 35	2	Female	2	Black, African, Caribbean or Black British	1
36 - 45	9			Prefer not to say	1
46 - 55	6			White	1
56 -64	5				
65+	0				

**4) How many applications have been turned down as a result of fraudulent activity.**

We can confirm that no applications have been turn down as a result of fraudulent activity.

**5) Can you also provide broad data on why the other applications were turned down: ie: incorrectly completed application, no planning permission etc etc.**

We can confirm that the reason the 19 applications were rejected was because based on the financial details submitted in their application, they did not meet our customer sustainability checklist requirements.

**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](mailto: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.



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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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