



Homes England

Date: 15 May 2024

Our Ref: RFI4710

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

[REDACTED]
By Email Only

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: Request for Information – RFI4710

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:

- 1/ Are Homes England (HE) currently using Microsoft Office M365/O365 subscriptions to licence its desktops?**
 - 2/ If the answer to question 1 is yes, can you confirm the date (HE) initially migrated to Microsoft Office M365/O365?**
 - 3/ If the answer to question 1 is yes, can you confirm what version(s) and quantities of perpetual (owned outright)/On Premise desktop application licences (such as Microsoft Office) were previously used to licence your desktops?**
 - 4/ Did (HE) use the 'FromSA' product SKU when it initially migrated to M365/O365 to obtain discounts?**
- If HE have migrated to M365/O365 please answer the following**
- 5/ Did Microsoft (or a third party on its behalf) carry out an audit of your Microsoft software assets in the period prior to your potential migration to O365/M365?**
 - 6/ If so, what date did any such audits start and finish?**





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7/ What is the corporate identity of the party carrying out the audit, e.g. Microsoft or the name of the third-party auditing company?

8/ Did the audit identify any breaches of, under licensing, or non-compliance with, your licensing conditions?

9/ If so, were any incentives relating to such breaches or non-compliance given by Microsoft to encourage your organisation to move to Microsoft cloud subscription licences?

10/ If so, please provide details/documentation of these incentives.

Response

We can confirm that we do hold some of the requested information.

1/ Are Homes England (HE) currently using Microsoft Office M365/O365 subscriptions to licence its desktops?

We can confirm Homes England are using M365 subscriptions to license its desktops.

2/ If the answer to question 1 is yes, can you confirm the date (HE) initially migrated to Microsoft Office M365/O365?

We confirm Homes England migrated to M365 in July 2018.

3/ If the answer to question 1 is yes, can you confirm what version(s) and quantities of perpetual (owned outright)/On Premise desktop application licences (such as Microsoft Office) were previously used to licence your desktops?

4/ Did (HE) use the 'FromSA' product SKU when it initially migrated to M365/O365 to obtain discounts?

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 Digital Technology 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.





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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 we estimate 800 desktops would have been running application licenses at the time and we would have been using Windows 7 on those machines alongside Office 2016.

If HE have migrated to M365/O365 please answer the following

- 5/ Did Microsoft (or a third party on its behalf) carry out an audit of your Microsoft software assets in the period prior to your potential migration to O365/M365?
- 6/ If so, what date did any such audits start and finish?
- 7/ What is the corporate identity of the party carrying out the audit, e.g. Microsoft or the name of the third-party auditing company?
- 8/ Did the audit identify any breaches of, under licensing, or non-compliance with, your licensing conditions?
- 9/ If so, were any incentives relating to such breaches or non-compliance given by Microsoft to encourage your organisation to move to Microsoft cloud subscription licences?
- 10/ If so, please provide details/documentation of these incentives.

We can confirm that no audit of our Microsoft software occurred prior to migration to M365.

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

6th Floor
Windsor House
42 - 50 Victoria Street, Westminster
London, SW1H 0TL

0300 1234 500
@HomesEngland
www.gov.uk/homes-england





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Information Governance Team

Homes England

Windsor House

6th Floor

42-50 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0TL

United Kingdom

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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