The Housing and Regeneration Agency



Date: 24 December 2024

Our Ref: RFI4973 Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

By Email Only	
Dear	

RE: Request for Information – RFI4973

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:

I would like to know the details of the restrictive covenant applicable to Stockton on Tees, and the Infinity Riverside Development. We do not want to apply for a removal of the covenant just the details. I have checked the title deed of the property and it states that Homes England has a filed copy of the details.

Response

We can inform you that we do hold the information that you have requested. However, we rely on section 21, exemption where information is available to the applicant elsewhere.

The full text of the legislation can be found on the following link and we have quoted section 21 below for ease.

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/21

<u>Section 21 - Information accessible to applicant by other means.</u>

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

The Lumen 2nd Floor St James Boulevard Newcastle upon Tyne

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



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- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)—
 - (a) information may be reasonably accessible to the applicant even though it is accessible only on payment, and
 - (b) information is to be taken to be reasonably accessible to the applicant if it is information which the public authority or any other person is obliged by or under any enactment to communicate (otherwise than by making the information available for inspection) to members of the public on request, whether free of charge or on payment.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1), information which is held by a public authority and does not fall within subsection (2)(b) is not to be regarded as reasonably accessible to the applicant merely because the information is available from the public authority itself on request, unless the information is made available in accordance with the authority's publication scheme and any payment required is specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.

Advice and Assistance

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 of the FOIA. We can advise that the details required in relation to the restrictive covenants is contained within the title register and in the transfer. They are both publicly available at the land registry via the following link: https://www.gov.uk/get-information-about-property-and-land. The title number for the site in your request is

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

Information Governance Team Homes England The Lumen 2nd Floor St James Boulevard

The Lumen 2nd Floor St James Boulevard Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 5BZ

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Newcastle Helix Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 5BZ 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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