



Homes
England

The Housing and Regeneration Agency

Date: 10 January 2025

Our Ref: RFI4991

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

[REDACTED]
By Email Only

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: Request for Information – RFI4991

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:

please could you advise, by council if possible, how many unoccupied properties there are in the UK?

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 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>

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

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





Homes England

Date: 10 January 2025

Our Ref: RFI4991

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

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 this information. We can advise however, that the Office for National Statistics do publish occupancy data by local authority level. The information can be found in the links below.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/datasets/overcrowdingandunderoccupancybyhouseholdcharacteristicsenglandandwalescensus2021>

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/datasets/numberofvacantdwellingandsecondhomeswithunusualresidents>

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
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.

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

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





Homes England

Date: 10 January 2025

Our Ref: RFI4991

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

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

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

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

