

Our Reference: RFI:7132-12

BY EMAIL ONLY

4 April 2012

Dear Mr Love

Request for Information

Thank you for your recent email, which requested information in pursuance of the Freedom of Information Act. For clarification, you requested the following information:

Could you tell me how many local authorities who recently were awarded the HCA Affordable Homes Grant to bring back into use empty buildings, have Allocation Policies wherein the legislated "reasonable preference" category of "homeless" (as defined by Part 7 of the 1996 Housing Act) is not SPECIFICALLY listed (in their Allocation Scheme)?

Please note that this is not the "accepted homeless" by local authorities whom have a duty to house (as these already are accommodated in temporary housing).

And please would you list those local authorities.

We have now had the opportunity to investigate your Request for Information, and are writing to communicate our response.

A full list of those local authorities which received allocations under the Empty Homes programme is available on our website at:

<http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/sites/default/files/our-work/eh-2012-15-providers.csv>

HCA does not hold any information relating to the allocation policies of these individual local authorities. As such, we are unable to provide this information to you, and would recommend that you contact the local authorities directly for clarification of their allocation policies.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding this response or any further queries. If you are unhappy with the way Homes and Communities Agency has handled your request you may ask for an internal review. You should contact

Head of Legal Services
Homes and Communities Agency

Homes and Communities Agency, Central Business Exchange II
406-412 Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2EA

0300 1234 500
Homesandcommunities.co.uk

Maple House
149 Tottenham Court Road
London
W1T 7BN

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Catherine West
Information Access Officer
Homes and Communities Agency