Our ref:	FOI 52/2011
Your ref:	
Date	5th October 2011
Name	Mark Laval
Your E-Mail address	request-86640-080d4ac3@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Laval

I am replying in response to your request under the Freedom of Information Act dated 19th September 2011.

In accordance with the findings of the Bexley Information Tribunal, we are unable to disclose information relating to empty properties owned by individuals. I can confirm that this information is "personal data" as defined in the Data Protection Act 1998. As a result s40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

With regard to properties owned by "organisations", the general principle is that we can disclose details of empty properties owned by organisations but not those owned by individuals. However, we do not maintain an accurate database of "owners" apart from those properties owned by Bristol City Council.

Therefore please find attached to this email a document containing data relating to empty commercial properties that are owned by Bristol City Council along with their respective rateable values.

This response should answer your request in full, however if you are not satisfied with this response or wish to lodge an appeal against any exemptions that may have been applied, you can do so by writing to the Data Protection Officer at Bristol City Council Legal Services, The Council House, College Green, Bristol, BS99 7PH or foi@bristol.gov.uk.   Details of the complaints procedure can be found at www.bristol.gov.uk/complaints.

If, after you have exhausted the council's complaints procedure, you are still not satisfied with the response you have received you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner, details of your right to complain can be found at www.ico.gov.uk/complaints.aspx.

Yours sincerely

K Smith
Business Rates Group Leader