

Mr Hiten Shah

My Ref: RFI 58996

Your Ref:

request-753483-75c84f23@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 07 June 2021

Dear Mr Shah

**Freedom of Information – Communities & Environment – Development,
Transport & Public Protection**

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and to your request for information dated 08 May 2021 which has been forwarded to me to provide a response to you.

You have requested details of empty properties in the borough.

Unfortunately, the information you have requested about empty properties is exempt from disclosure under section 31(1)(a) Crime prevention and detection, as releasing information about empty properties is likely to prejudice the prevention and detection of crime as empty properties are more likely to be targeted for theft and vandalism.

If there are specific properties that you are interested in purchasing for redevelopment then the Council's empty property officer, Chris Geddes may be able to assist you in putting you in touch with the owners. Chris can be contacted on 0191 433 3376.

Should you have any queries regarding the contents of this letter, please contact Paul Christer on 0191 433 3922.

Yours sincerely



Paul Christer
Environmental Health Assistant Manager
Policy, Climate Change and Strategic Transport

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Economy, Innovation & Growth