

Martin Stern

[request-959031-3da3848f@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

Our Ref: FOI013123
Your Ref: AF496336705
Contact: Nathan Godfrey PC.foi.
Direct Dial No: 01462 474000
E-mail: FOI2@north-herts.gov.uk
Date: 12th April 2023

Dear Martin Stern

Information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 / Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Thank you for your request for information received on 13th March 2023.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 & the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Any information that is refused will clearly indicate the exemption and/or exception that applies to the refusal.

Parts (a), (b) and (c) of your request have been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Parts (d) and (e) of your request has been dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests is available in our reception or on our website. If you have any queries regarding the process or your request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If after receiving our full response, you feel dissatisfied with the information provided, or you disagree with a refusal decision, you have the right to ask for a review of the decision with the Council. We will accept review requests up to 60 days after our response. After that date we consider the case closed.

Review requests should be addressed to the Information & Asset Team Manager at North Herts Council, Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3JF or emailed to FOI2@north-herts.gov.uk

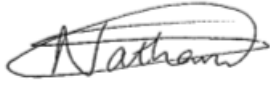
It is important that you include the above FOI reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

If following a review you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response, you can contact the Information Commissioners Office for guidance or to make an appeal at:-

Information Commissioner

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan', enclosed within a large, loopy oval stroke.

Nathan Godfrey PC.foi.
Information & Asset Officer

Martin Stern

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Contact Officer: Nathan Godfrey PC.foi.
Direct Line: 01462 474000
Email: FOI2@north-herts.gov.uk
Date: 12th April 2023

Dear Martin Stern

Information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
FOI013123 – List of Derelict and Empty properties.

Thank you for your request for information received on 13th March 2023.

Your request has now been processed and the information that we hold is attached at the bottom of this letter.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any information that is refused will clearly indicate the exemption that applies to the refusal.

I am writing to inform you that part (c) of your request is being refused under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 21 - Information accessible to applicant by other means

The information you have requested can be found on the North Herts Council Website, please follow the link below as this will take you to the relevant information you have requested.

[Published data sets | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](http://north-herts.gov.uk)

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Review requests should be addressed to the Information & Asset Team Manager at North Hertfordshire District Council, Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3JF or emailed to FOI2@north-herts.gov.uk

It is important that you include the above FOI reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

If following a review you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response, you can contact the Information Commissioners Office for guidance or to make an appeal at:-
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire. SK9 5AF
Telephone: 0303 123 1113 (or 01625 545745 if you would prefer not to call an '03' number, or +44 1625 545745 if calling from overseas) www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan', with a stylized flourish underneath.

Nathan Godfrey PC.foi.
Information & Asset Officer

Martin Stern

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Date: 12th April 2023

Dear Martin Stern

Information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
FOI013123 – List of Derelict and Empty properties.

Thank you for your request for information received on 13th March 2023.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any information that is refused will clearly indicate the exemption that applies to the refusal.

I am writing to inform you that part (a) of your request is being refused under Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as outlined below. As the exemption we have refused your request under is a Qualified exemption, it is subject to the Public Interest Test (PIT).

Section 31 – Law Enforcement

(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice—

(a) the prevention or detection of crime

Having considered the public interest, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exception outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. NHDC's decision is therefore to withhold the information.

The remaining responses to your request can be found below.

Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests is available in our reception or on our website. If you have any queries regarding the process or your request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If after receiving our full response, you feel dissatisfied with the information provided, or you disagree with a refusal decision, you have the right to ask for a review of the decision with the Council. We will accept review requests up to 60 days after our response. After that date we consider the case closed.

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Yours sincerely



Nathan Godfrey PC.foi.
Information & Asset Officer

List Derelict and Empty properties

Request:

(a) addresses of all empty or unused privately owned homes, which have been empty for more than 12 Months, within the North Hertfordshire District, and when they became empty.

I am writing to inform you that part (a) of your request is being refused under Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as outlined below. As the exemption we have refused your request under is a Qualified exemption, it is subject to the Public Interest Test (PIT).

Section 31 – Law Enforcement

(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice—

(a) the prevention or detection of crime

Having considered the public interest, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exception outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. NHDC's decision is therefore to withhold the information.

The remaining responses to your request can be found below.

(b) addresses of all empty or unused council-owned homes, which have been empty for more than 12 Months, within the North Hertfordshire District, and when they became empty.

North Herts Council is a non-stock holding authority

(c) addresses of all empty or unused commercial properties, which have been empty for more than 12 Months, within the North Hertfordshire District, and when they became empty.

I am writing to inform you that part (c) of your request is being refused under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 21 - Information accessible to applicant by other means

The information you have requested can be found on the North Herts Council Website, please follow the link below as this will take you to the relevant information you have requested.

[Published data sets | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/information/data-sets)

(d) the addresses stated within (a), (b), and (c), which have had Planning Applications submitted within the previous 24 Months.

This information can be obtained through our website. If the requestor has an address, then they are able to use this to search our website for information on any planning applications.

[View or comment on a planning application | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/planning/view-application)

(e) the status of the Planning Applications stated in (d), either Approved, Rejected, or Withdrawn.

This information can be obtained through our website. If the requestor has an address, then they are able to use this to search our website for information on any planning applications.

[View or comment on a planning application | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](http://north-herts.gov.uk)