

Ref: INF 1905024  
Date: 11 June 2019  
Contact: Business Services  
Email: [operationsFOI@northlincs.gov.uk](mailto:operationsFOI@northlincs.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 01724 297000



[www.northlincs.gov.uk](http://www.northlincs.gov.uk)

Becky McIntyre  
Director of Governance & Partnerships  
Church Square House  
30-40 High Street  
Scunthorpe  
North Lincolnshire  
DN15 6NL

[Request-575440-4f4819ab@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:Request-575440-4f4819ab@whatdotheyknow.com)

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

Dear Mr McIntosh

### Re: Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information, reference number INF1905024 received by North Lincolnshire Council on 9 May 2019. I have considered your request in detail and can confirm that the council holds the following information:

- 1) Can the council confirm their current number of Long Term Empty Properties as of the 8th May (those domestic properties which have been empty for six months or older)?  
**718**
- 2) What work is the council currently undertaking or planning to undertake around reducing their long term empty properties in 2019?  
**Enforcement and persuasion is carried out on a case by case basis when empty properties are reported to us.**
- 3) During 2018 did you undertake any work around reducing your Long Term Empty Properties? If you did was this done using internal resource or a third party?  
**From 1/4/18 empty properties over 2 years were charged 150% council tax (some exceptions if up for sale etc) and from 1/4/19 this was increased to 200%. This was all undertaken utilising internal resources.**
- 4) If yes is the answer to question three, did the council review every single long term property?  
**Only properties empty over 2 years**
- 5) Does the reduction of empty homes in the council area form part of your Housing strategy?  
**North Lincolnshire Council does not currently have a specific housing strategy.**
- 6) Does the council have a budget in place to help support the reduction of empty properties?  
**There is currently no budget specifically targeted at reducing empty properties.**
- 7) How much did the council spend on temporary accommodation during 2018?  
**£59,504.20**
- 8) Does the council offer financial support/loans to Long Term Empty property owners to help them bring properties back into use?  
**Not currently – however it has in the past and could do in the future.**

If you wish to re-use this information for reasons other than, for example personal use, please see the council's [Access to Information Policy](#) for full details of how to request permission to re-use information released in response to a Freedom of Information request.

If you wish to re-use this information for reasons other than, for example personal use, If you are unhappy about how we have dealt with your request please let me know and I will refer the matter to the council's [Information Complaints Policy](#). Alternatively you can complain using the council's [online complaint form](#) on the Contact Us page of the North Lincolnshire Council website.

You also have the right to appeal directly to the [Information Commissioner's Office \(ICO\)](#), although please note the ICO usually expect the council to have investigated your concerns first.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team  
North Lincolnshire Council