



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

**Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local
Government**

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Mr Keith Lisle
Via email

Date: **23 June 2020**

Dear Mr Lisle

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - 7867172

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 1 June 2020 and processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

- "1. Up to 02/06/2020, how many applications have been registered on the Homes England's IT system?*
- 2. Up to 02/06/2020, how many applications have had their application cancelled?*
- 4. Up to 02/06/2020 how many property sales have completed and now owned by the tenant.*
- 5. How much of the allocated £200,000,000 has now been spent?*
- 6. Will there be second offer for the unsuccessful tenants from the first Midlands VRTB pilot ballot?*
- 7. Is the new shared ownership Right to Buy (SORTB) announced by Robert Jenrick and in the March 2020 budget going to replace the right to buy scheme?"*
- 8. Due to the covid 19 lockdown and now the UK economy needs a boost is there plans for a uk national right to buy rollout?"*

We can confirm that the information requested is held by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and we are able to provide you with all this information below.

Up to 02/06/2020, how many applications have been registered on the Homes England's IT system?

As of 1 June 2020, a total of 3,878 applications had been entered into the system.

Up to 02/06/2020, how many applications have had their application cancelled?

As of 1 June 2020, of the tenants who have made an application to their housing association, 1,995 have either cancelled their application, or else their application had been terminated by their housing association.

Reasons for termination may include a tenant not meeting the eligibility criteria for the pilot, or a tenant withdrawing their application for any reason, for example if they cannot afford the purchase.

Up to 02/06/2020 how many property sales have completed and now owned by the tenant.

As of 1 June 2020, there have been 1,711 sales under the pilot.

How much of the allocated £200,000,000 has now been spent?

As of 1 June 2020, £110.9m has been spent on funding Voluntary Right to Buy discounts under the Midlands pilot.

This figure captures the discount amount from the sales that is paid to housing associations, and the compensation paid to housing associations for the allowable costs of administering the scheme.

Will there be second offer for the unsuccessful tenants from the first Midlands VRTB pilot ballot?

The Government is closely monitoring the progress of the Midlands pilot, and the spending of the budget. There are no plans to run a second ballot – if this position changes, the Government will make an announcement.

Is the new shared ownership Right to Buy (SORTB) announced by Robert Jenrick and in the March 2020 budget going to replace the right to buy scheme?

No, the Government remains committed to the Right to Buy, which has been in place for council tenants since the scheme launched in 1980. The Right to Shared Ownership, which was announced in October 2019, is a separate scheme.

Additionally, the 2019 manifesto committed to evaluating new pilot areas for the Voluntary Right to Buy. We will announce more details on this in due course.

Due to the Covid 19 lockdown and now the UK economy needs a boost is there plans for a UK national right to buy rollout?

As set out in the 2019 manifesto, the Government will evaluate new pilot areas for the Voluntary Right to Buy. We will announce more details on this in due course.

Complaints procedure

If you are unhappy with this response, we will review it and report back to you. (This is called an internal review.) If you want us to do this, let us know by return email within two months of receiving this response. You can also ask by letter addressed to:

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Knowledge and Information Access Team

4th Floor SE, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

If you are unhappy with the outcome of this internal review, you can ask the independent Information Commissioner to investigate. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at email address casewoxx@xxx.xxx.xx or use their online form at ico.org.uk/concerns or call them on 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely

MHCLG FOI Team