

Reference: 17297773  
Date: 12 October 2020

Dear Danyelle Phillips

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000**

We write in reference to your Freedom of Information request.

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides two distinct but related rights of access to information which impose corresponding duties on public authorities. These are:

- The duty to inform the applicant whether or not information is held by the authority and, if so,
- The duty to communicate that information to the applicant

We can confirm that the information requested is held by The London Borough of Barking & Dagenham. I have detailed below the information that is being released to you.

*I have noticed that my status when bidding on website has changes from 'Priority homeseeker' to 'Decant' though there was a short notice advising of changes, these changes were specifically for Waltham forest applicants.*

*Can you please explain why status for LBBDD applicants has also changed and if this does have an actual effect on my actual priority. According to the notice for Waltham forest not all changes will effect your actual status/priority, I am not sure what this change means for me.*

*Also there has been no 3 bedroom properties for over 4 weeks and I am quite concerned about the amount of 3 bedrooms being made available. Will this change or will this lack of properties improve soon?*

The status of the application has changed during this bidding cycle due to a problem on the ELLC website which has resulted in all Priority Homeseeker cases being incorrectly described as Decant cases. Work is in hand to resolve the problem and restore the correct information.

Unfortunately, there has been such a lack of 3 bedroom properties this year that it has only been possible to advertise 7 properties so far and we have not advertised a single 3 bedroom property for the last 6 weeks. It is not possible to predict the availability of property vacancies therefore we're unable to say whether or not the situation will improve.

**Internal Review Procedure**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request then you have a right under Section 50 of the Act to request an internal review. All such requests must be sent to us within 8 weeks and must clearly state your reference number and your reason for your request for an internal review.

We will respond to your request for an internal review within 20 working days of receipt. Your request for an internal review should be sent by email to [foi@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:foi@lbbd.gov.uk) quoting your FOI reference number.

### **Information Commissioners Office**

Should you remain dissatisfied with the final outcome of the internal review then you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner (the "ICO") for an independent review. The ICO is the Government's Independent Body responsible for overseeing the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998 and The Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Please note the ICO will only review cases that have exhausted the council's internal review procedure. All correspondence to the ICO must quote the council's reference number and your reasons for your appeal. The ICO's contact details are as follows;

The Information Commissioners Office,  
Wycliffe House,  
Water Lane, Wilmslow,  
Cheshire,  
SK9 5AF.

More information can be found at the ICO's website at <http://www.ico.org.uk> If you have any further enquiries about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing [foi@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:foi@lbbd.gov.uk)

We trust you find the above to be satisfactory but should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

The FOI Team