

**My Ref:** IG-11884  
**Your Ref:**  
**Contact:** Freedom of Information Team  
**Email:** [FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

**Freedom of Information Team**  
**Information Compliance**  
**Legal & Governance**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Loxley House  
Station Street  
Nottingham  
NG2 3NG

Requester

At contact address specified for request number above

6 March 2019

**Tel:** 0115 876 4376

**Email:**

[FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

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

Dear Requester

### **Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act)**

The council has considered your request which was received on 6 February 2019 and our response to your questions is shown below.

*The number of empty (unoccupied) premises in the NG1 post code area, split between business/residential. This to include all retail, licenced, office space. Each address to count as 1. Where split, the business last carried out at ground floor level.*

#### *1. The total number currently empty domestic properties in NG1*

273 residential properties current with empty council tax exemption. Please note a significant number of these residential properties are rental and therefore may only be empty for a short period of time in between the previous tenants moving out and new tenants moving in.

Regarding empty business rates properties, the council has determined that this information related to commercial properties currently empty is exempt from disclosure in accordance with section 21(1) of the Act as it is reasonably accessible to you by other means as it is publically available.

The council publish an open dataset, which is a comprehensive list of all current Non-domestic (business) rates accounts and it indicates whether the property is empty. The council does not publish the Property Reference Number, addresses and organisation names for empty commercial and industrial addresses, as its disclosure would be likely to prejudice the prevention of crime. However, the postcode is published. You can download the data from here:

<https://www.opendatanottingham.org.uk/dataset.aspx?id=109>



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You can filter either columns a, b or d to just show the properties marked as "VACANT PROPERTY". Column E headed 'Post Code' will identify the properties commercial properties with a NG1 postcode.

The council has relied on sections 16 and 21 of the Act, as it is providing you with advice and assistance by directing you to our website where you can find the some of the requested information. Please accept this letter as a partial refusal notice issued in accordance with section 17 of the Act.

*2. The total number of domestic properties in NG1 that have been empty for:*

- More than 5 years*
- More than 10 years*
- More than 20 years*

Regarding domestic residential properties in NG1 empty 5 years or more = 21; empty 10 year or more = 8; empty 20 years or more = 1

Regarding empty business rates properties, the council has determined that this information related to commercial properties currently empty is exempt from disclosure in accordance with section 21(1) of the Act as it is reasonably accessible to you by other means as it is publically available.

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You can filter either columns a, b or d to just show the properties marked as "VACANT PROPERTY". Column E headed 'Post Code' will identify the properties commercial properties with a NG1 postcode. Columns M, N, O, or P will indicate when the exemption started so you can identify the number of properties that have been empty for More than 5, 10 and 20 years.

The council has relied on sections 16 and 21 of the Act, as it is providing you with advice and assistance by directing you to our website where you can find the some of the requested information. Please accept this letter as a partial refusal notice issued in accordance with section 17 of the Act.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own personal use. If the information provided is marked as published under an [Open Government Licence](#) you are free to reuse it, subject to the licence terms. However, if the information is not published under an Open Government Licence and you wish to reuse it, for example, by publishing the information or issuing copies to the public you are required to request permission for re-use of this information under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005 (RPSI). Your RPSI request must be in writing and include your name and address for correspondence, and specify the information you want to re-use and the purpose you intend to use it for.

If you are unhappy with the response provided or with the handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review in writing stating the reasons for your dissatisfaction. Your request for an internal review should be made to the council within forty working days of the date of this letter. Please quote reference IG-11884 in all communications.

You can contact the Freedom of Information Team either by email: [FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk) or writing to the **Freedom of Information Team, Information Compliance, Legal & Governance, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG.**

If you remain unhappy after receiving the response to your initial complaint you can request an independent review from the Information Commissioner's Office at **FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.** You may also contact the Information Commissioner's Office by telephone on 01625 545745 or by email at [mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team  
Legal & Governance  
Nottingham City Council