



Coventry City Council

UNCLASSIFIED

Resources Directorate

Chris West
Executive Director, Resources

Council House
Earl Street
Coventry
CV1 5RR

Please contact:
Information Governance Team
Tel: 024 7683 3323
Email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Our reference: 20122561
Date: 22nd April 2014

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information about vacant properties, which the Council received on 20th March 2014. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "Act").

You have requested the following information

- *How many vacant properties are there in your geographic area of responsibility?*

There are currently 1,095 empty homes in the Coventry area.

With regard to non-domestic, commercial properties in the Coventry area, to further assist you the Council publishes a list of non-domestic rates accounts on empty properties which can be found at the following link:

http://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/1987/non_domestic_rates_foi_report-ndr_accounts-empty_properties

- *What level of housing and commercial property stock does the council possess?
Please provide a figure of quantity, rather than value.*

In the 1st two questions I am referring to both council owned and private properties- all properties within the council. If that is over the budget of the request, please provide only council owned properties. By securing I mean boarding up, CCTV, security guards, patrols, alarms or any other means of making the property safe.

In respect of social housing, Coventry City Council transferred its Council housing stock to Whitefriars Housing in September 2000 and we are therefore unable to provide this information and are advising you as required per Section 1(1) (a) of the Act that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

To advise and assist, this transfer also involved movement of responsibility for management of the housing and the Council relinquished this responsibility as part of the transfer.

Information about Whitefriars and their services can be found on the website at:

<http://www.whitefriarshousing.co.uk/home>

The Council has 81 commercial vacant council owned properties.

There are 1489 commercial properties within the Council's property portfolio.

- *Which, if any, medium to large scale regeneration projects having been budgeted for within the next financial year? By regeneration projects I mean plans for new developments that aim to cultivate better housing, transport, leisure pursuits and business opportunities in the council as well as general renewal and renovation of buildings and infrastructure. By medium to large scale I mean projects that displace, decant or rehouse up to 25 residents (medium scale) or over 25 residents (large scale).*

Any proposals the Council has to undertake direct development of the type described will be the subject of public report. Such reports are available on the Council's web site.

<http://democraticservices.coventry.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1>

Please note, under the Re-Use of Public Sector Information 2005 Regulations you are free to use this information for your own use or for the purposes of news reporting.

However, any other type of re-use under the Regulations, for example; publication of the information or circulation to the public, will require permission of the copyright owner and may be subject to terms and conditions. For documents where the copyright does not belong to Coventry City Council you will need to apply separately to the copyright holder.

If you wish to apply to reuse the information you have requested or have any other issues relating to this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are unhappy about the outcome or handling of your request please write to the Information Governance Team within 40 days of the date of this letter at:

Council House, Room 21a
Lower Ground Floor
Earl Street, Coventry.
CV1 5RR
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are still dissatisfied, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Sue Gilbert
Information Governance Assistant