

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000562
Date 01 November 2016

House Building Register

Request:

As you may be aware, from 1 April 2016 the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 (as amended by the Housing and Planning Act 2016) requires all relevant authorities to keep a register of individuals and associations of individuals who wish to acquire serviced plots of land to build their own homes in the authority's area and to have regard to those registers in carrying out their planning, housing, land disposal and regeneration functions. Section 1(2) of the 2015 Act also requires each relevant authority to publicise its register.

In this context, if your authority holds a self-build and custom housebuilding register, I am requesting the following information from your authority:

1. The number of individuals listed on the register as at 31 October 2016; **Four**
2. The number of associations of individuals (groups) listed on the register as at 31 October 2016; **Two**
3. If there are groups listed on the register, the total number of people in those groups as at 31 October 2016. **Information not held**

If your authority holds a self-build and custom housebuilding register, whether it has publicised such a register and, if so, how this has been done (eg. local media, council webpage);

We can confirm that the department holds information that you have asked for in relation to the above. However, the information is exempt under section 21 of the FOI Act because it is reasonably accessible to you, and I am pleased to inform you that you can access it on our website via the following link:

The register is advertised on the Council's website
<https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/article/8592/Self-and-Custom-Build-Register>

Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act exempts disclosure of information that is reasonably accessible by other means, and the terms of the exemption mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

How many permissioned serviced building plots have been made available between 1 April and 31 October 2016 to meet the demand on the register; **None**

Whether your authority has a local policy to facilitate self-build and custom

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

housebuilding in your adopted local development plan, or is intending to introduce one. It is our intention to introduce a policy after the Black Country Core Strategy review has been completed.