



Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
NW Leicestershire District Council
Whitwick Road
Coalville
Leicestershire
LE67 3FJ
Telephone: 01530 454763

Date: 14 September 2020

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 1279

I write further to your email dated 03 September 2020.

Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), explained on our [freedom of information](#) page.

Your request:

I notice that you supply information online, however I cannot see that you provide information on properties which are empty. Please would you be able to supply me with the following information for empty properties liable for national non domestic rates:

- Property Address and post code
- Ratepayer
- Rateable Value
- Description
- BA Reference Number
- Correspondence or billing address
- Date the property was vacant from and details of any reliefs applied
- Details of any applied exemptions where applicable

Our response:

I can confirm that North West Leicestershire District Council holds the information you have requested. However, the information will not be released since it is exempt from disclosure under section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 31(1) (a) allows a public authority to withhold information if its release would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

To apply the exemption under section 31, we are obliged to undertake a public interest test. In this case, it is considered that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it and that therefore the information is exempt from release because information regarding empty properties could be used for criminal purposes.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer the right to re-use the information. UK copyright law allows information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research to be used without permission. Information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting except for in the case of photographs.

GOING FORWARD

If you are dissatisfied with the information supplied please feel free to contact me on the number above for any queries in relation to this response. Please note that in responding to further enquiries I can only comment on the information contained within this correspondence and cannot provide any further information that may pertain to an additional FOIA request.

Please remember to quote the Authority's four digit reference number given at the top of this email in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the above informal review, you have the right to ask for an internal review. A request for a review whether formal or informal should be submitted within two calendar months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to DPO@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk or the address above.

Further details on our appeals and complaints procedure can be found on our website [here](#).

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at accessicoinformation@ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mackenzie Keatley
Information Governance Officer