

Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 984

I write further to your email dated 29 October 2019.

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

Our response:

1) Please state the local authority you are responding on behalf of:

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Empty Homes Premium Council Tax

Council Tax Empty Properties Premium Questions

Local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales have considerable discretion over the level of council tax charged on unoccupied properties. This charge can vary from authority to authority.

From 01 April 2013, billing authorities may charge a premium on a class of property that has been unoccupied and unfurnished for 2 years or more.

From 01 April 2019, billing authorities have been given the power to increase the premium for any property that has been empty for a period of two years or more.

2) Does the Local Authority currently operate an Empty Homes Premium Charge?

Yes

If you answered 'No' to Q.2, please just Q.3 for this section of the Council Tax survey.

3) If the Local Authority currently does not operate an Empty Homes Premium Charge, are there plans to introduce such a policy in the future? Please choose only 1 answer.

Yes

No

Planning to consult

Currently consulting

4) If you implemented an Empty Homes Premium Charge after April 2013, in what year did it come into force?

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

January to March 2019

April 2019 onwards

**5) Did the Local Authority implement a new Empty Homes Premium Charge from April 2019?
Please only choose 1 answer.**

Yes

No

No but plan to implement a new charge in the future

6) For homes that have been empty for two years or more, what premium (%) of council tax is currently charged?

MORE THAN TWO YEARS – 50%

MORE THAN THREE YEARS – 100%

7) How much (£) in additional Council Tax has the Local Authority collected from the Empty Homes Premium Charge since it has been in force?

Premium only introduced 01/04/19 – no date available until after 31/03/20.

Landlord Licensing

Please highlight or underline your answers

8) Does your Local Authority currently operate a Selective Licensing Scheme?

Yes

No

9) Is your Local Authority currently running a consultation on Selective Licensing? Please choose only 1 answer.

Consulting on a new scheme

Consulting on renewing an existing scheme

No consultation on Selective Licensing

Consulting on both renewing and introducing a new scheme

10) Does your Local Authority currently operate an Additional Licensing Scheme?

Yes

No

11) Is your Local Authority currently running a consultation on Additional Licensing? Please choose only 1 answer.

Consulting on a new scheme

Consultation on renewing an existing Scheme

No consultation on Additional Licensing

Consulting on both renewing and introducing a new scheme

Article 4 Direction

Please highlight or underline your answers

An Article 4 Direction is made by the local planning authority. It restricts the scope of permitted development rights either in relation to a particular area or site, or a particular type of development anywhere in the authority's area.

Where an Article 4 direction is in effect, a planning application may be required for development that would otherwise have been permitted development.

12) Does your Local Authority have any Article 4 Directions currently in place for HMOs? (C3 to C4)

Yes

No

Other answer:

13) If answered yes to Q.12, what kind of designation is it? Please choose only 1 answer.

Borough wide/city wide designation

Single designation of area

Multiple single designated areas

14) Has your Local Authority formally consulted in the last 12 months on introducing an Article 4 Direction (C3 to C4)? Please choose only 1 answer.

Yes

No

Currently consulting

Planning to consult

15) If answered yes, currently consulting or planning to consult to Q.14, does the Article 4 Designation come into force by December 2020?

Yes

No

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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 three 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.

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.