

LIFE OPPORTUNITIES – 95/13

REQUEST

How many properties have been empty for more than six months? If possible categorise them such as 'due to poor state of repair'.

1. How many properties are currently available and ready to move into? (categorise such as two bedroom flat etc)
2. How many people are currently on a waiting list and what is the average time somebody is on the waiting list for housing?
3. What is the most commonly requested type of property? (3 bedroom house, bungalow etc)
4. Has the council got any plans to build more council homes and when is the building likely to commence? (categorise by type of property)
5. How many tenants are currently seeking rehousing? (to down size or increase size - please specify)
6. How many tenants currently have applications in via the Right to Buy scheme?
7. How many properties were sold via Right to Buy in the last 12 months - January-December 2013?

Note: The request relates to social housing stock.

RESPONSE

I write in response to your Freedom of Information request dated 16 December 2013 regarding empty properties within the Council's social housing stock.

The responses to the questions that you raised are as follows:

The number of properties that have been empty for more than 6 months is 36. 34 are sheltered studio flats with shared bathrooms and there is no demand for these. 2 are houses that need extensive major works.

1. The number of properties that are currently available and ready to move into is 56 (45 sheltered studio flats, 1 studio flat, 6 one bed flats, 1 one bed bungalow, 2 two bed flats, 1 three bed house)
2. There are currently 1568 people on the waiting list (waiting time is not calculated or taken into account)
3. The most commonly requested type of property is a 1 bedroom flat.
4. The Council has recently purchased 6 flats and 2 houses are under construction.
5. In terms of council tenants, 240 are registered for housing – 82 are looking to downsize and 27 are seeking a larger property because of overcrowding
6. 11 tenants currently have applications in via the Right to Buy scheme.
7. 13 properties were sold via the Right to Buy in the last 12 months.