

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

You asked:

- 1. How many properties have been empty for more than 6 months? If possible categorise them such as 'due to poor state of repair'.**

The information in the table below relates to Leicester City Council properties only.

Property type	Amount of properties	Reason empty for more than 6 months
Bedsit	38	35 are being held as part of a 3 year major refurbishment project in the tower blocks. Tenants will be moved out of their property whilst the works are completed and these properties will be used as temporary accommodation. 3 are being disposed of.
1 bedroom flat	46	All are being held as part of a 3 year major refurbishment project in the tower blocks. Tenants will be moved out of their property whilst the works are completed and these properties will be used as temporary accommodation.
2 bedroom flat	2	Both are being held as part of a 3 year major refurbishment project in the tower blocks. Tenants will be moved out of their property whilst the works are completed and these properties will be used as temporary accommodation.
3 bedroom flat	1	The property is within a sheltered housing complex and is being converted for use by Supported Housing.
2 bedroom Maisonette	15	All properties are being demolished to allow building on the site and adjacent land, of affordable housing.
3 bedroom House	3	1 is within a sheltered housing complex and is being converted for use by Supported Housing. The remaining 2 are due to extensive works required to bring the properties up to an acceptable standard for letting.

2. How many properties are currently available and ready to move into? (categorise such as 2 bedroom flat etc.)

50 Bedsits, 41 x 1 bedroom flats and 2 x 2 bedroom flats. Whilst these properties are vacant, they are not available for letting as are being held as part of a 3 year major refurbishment project in the tower blocks. Tenants will be moved out of their property whilst the works are completed and these properties will be used as temporary accommodation. There is 1 sheltered housing bedsit that is available and ready to let.

These are Leicester City council properties only and are properties which are vacant, have had all works completed on them making them ready to let, but are not offered to anyone.

3. How many people are currently on a waiting list and what is the average time somebody is on the waiting list for housing?

As at 06/12/2012 there were 10066 households on the Housing Register. The average waiting time on the Housing Register for households rehoused in the last 6 months (01/04/2012 – 30/09/2012) was 461 days.

4. What is the most commonly requested type of property? (3 bedroom house, bungalow etc)

The most popular property type is a 2 bedroom house.

5. Has the council got any plans to build more council homes and when is the building likely to commence? (categorise by type of property)

We are looking at maybe building 19 new council homes, subject to HRA budget being approved, (they are in pipeline, would probably commence the build in Jan to March 2104). It will be subject to no other calls on the HRA.

The house types are: -

2 bed 4 person	=	13
2 bed 4 person w/c	=	1
3 bed 5 person	=	1
4 bed +	=	4

Total 19 units.

6. How many tenants are currently seeking rehousing? (to down size or increase size)

The number of council tenants on the Housing Register as at 06/12/2012 seeking to downsize their home was 239 and those seeking to increase the size of their home was 593.

7. How many tenants currently have applications in via the Right to Buy scheme?

567

8. How many properties were sold via Right to Buy in the last 24 months?

193

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

**Information Governance Manager
Information and Support
Leicester City Council
FREEPOST (LE985/33)
New Walk Centre
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG**
e-mail: info.requests@leicester.gov.uk

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**Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700**
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

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