

## **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:**

**Can you please inform us of the number of Council owned property or premises that fall under the direct control of the Council and are fully responsible for and fall under the following criteria :-**

**Figures for Domestic properties (liable to Council Tax):**

**1 / Empty & Vacant for a period of up to a 6 month period 178**

**2 / Empty & Vacant for a period of 6- 12 month period 22**

**3 / Empty & Vacant for a period in excess of 12 months to 5 years 69**

**4 / Empty & Vacant for excess of 5 to 10 years 6**

**5 / Empty & Vacant for in excess of 10 years 7**

**Figures for Non-Domestic / Business properties (liable to Business Rates):**

**1 / Empty & Vacant for a period of up to a 6 month period 23**

**2 / Empty & Vacant for a period of 6- 12 month period 15**

**3 / Empty & Vacant for a period in excess of 12 months to 5 years 86**

**4 / Empty & Vacant for excess of 5 to 10 years 5**

**5 / Empty & Vacant for in excess of 10 years 6**

**Council Tax.**

**1 / Are properties owned by the council or directly responsible are they liable for council tax or are they exempt.**

**All vacant domestic properties (unoccupied and unfurnished) irrespective of whether they are privately or Council owned, are eligible for an exemption for 6 months. After six months Council Tax is payable at the full rate.**

**2 / if such properties are liable has council tax, HAS this been paid on the above mentioned or are their outstanding arrears and if so what recovery action has been taken to recover the lost revenues.**

**All charges have been paid in full.**

**3 / if the properties are exempt from council tax under what regulations / laws please indicate where in the statute book these can be found.**

Primary legislation is Local Government Finance Act 1992. Secondary legislation is Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) Order 1992 [SI 1992/558] as amended.

**4 / if the properties have remained empty and are exempt from council tax what steps have been taken to remarket these onto the property ladder to ensure that council tax/revenues are obtained and to minimise to the loss to the public revenue.**

As point 1. Full Council Tax charges are payable after six months. The Council has an Empty Homes Team which takes proactive action once a property has remained vacant for 18 months. Further details can be found at <http://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council-services/housing/living-in-leicester-and-home-advice/empty-homes/>.

**5 / what figure if the above mentioned properties are still empty and are exempt is the amount of LOST revenue to the public IF the properties were occupied and paying council tax.**

None as Council Tax is payable at the full rate after six months.

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Not all the information that is supplied which is covered by copyright will be the Council's copyright, for example it may be the copyright of a government department or another Council. You should seek either the Council's consent or their consent as appropriate. The Council is willing to advise you of any such potential issues on request. In order to make a request to re-use the information please contact the Information Governance Manager using the details below. 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: [FOIA@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:FOIA@leicester.gov.uk)**

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

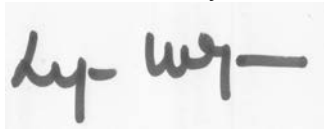
You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

**Information Commissioner's Office**

**Wycliffe House**  
**Water Lane**  
**Wilmslow SK9 5AF**  
**Telephone: 01625 545 700**  
[www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider appeals or complaints until the internal appeals and complaints processes of the public authority which is answering the request have been exhausted. You are therefore advised to complain or appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynn Wyeth', is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

**Lynn Wyeth**  
**Information Governance Manager**