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Thank you for your email of 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024 sent to Council Tax team. Apologies for the delay responded, we only received your request in our team today.

We can confirm that we hold details of empty residential properties owned by individuals however, the Council is of the view that residential empty property information is exempt from disclosure under section 31(1)(a) – Prejudicial to Law Enforcement which states:

“(1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under the Act would, or would be likely to prejudice –

a. the prevention or detection of crime.”

The disclosure of the addresses would be likely to prejudice the prevention of crime as it is believed that if a list of the addresses were to be disclosed then these properties would become more vulnerable to squatting, associated crime and other forms of criminal activity including but not limited to criminal damage, extraction of electricity and the stripping of empty properties and would increase the social and economic costs in these areas as a result.

We have compiled a list of people interested in purchasing empty properties. This list is circulated to the empty property owners who are looking to sell their properties. Once the list is sent to the property owners the council’s involvement ends, we do not get involved in negotiations etc.

If you wish to be added to the list or there is a specific empty property you are interested in please send your email to: [emptyhomes@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:emptyhomes@leicester.gov.uk).

Kind regards,

Information Governance & Risk

Leicester City Council