



Information Governance

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Date: 19 March 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI311763100

Thank you for your request for information relating to Council Tax raised from vacant properties.

Your request and our responses are shown below*:

*Please note that with regards to information requested about vacant council houses, we are unable to provide any information and are informing you as required per Section 1(1)(a) of the Act. We advise Coventry City Council does not own any housing stock as this was transferred to Whitefriars Housing (now Citizen Housing) in September 2000 through Large Scale Voluntary Transfer.

To advise and assist you further, information about Whitefriars Housing and their services can be found on the web site at: <https://www.citizenhousing.org.uk/contact-us/>

Please see below for the information that we can provide for private houses:

1) As of 26th February 2021 (or the most recently available date), please could you tell me how many private and council homes have been vacant in your authority for the following numbers of financial years:

Private Homes

Less than a year: 3950

One Year : 1121
Two Years: 342
Three Years: 173
Four Years: 98
Five Years: 73
Six Years: 62
Seven Years: 34
Eight Years: 31
Nine Years: 21
Ten Years: 15
11-19 Years: 66
20 Years or more: 27

2) For the last five financial years (2016/2017 - 2020/2021), please can you tell me how many homes that had been vacant for two or more years were demolished in your authority?

Number demolished:

2016/17: 20
2017/18: 2
2018/19: 0
2019/20: 0
2020/21: 0

3) For the last five financial years (2016/2017 - 2020/2021), please can you tell me how many reports related to squatting in a council-owned vacant property you have received?

See above. This information is not held by Coventry City Council.

4) For the last five financial years (2016/2017 - 2020/2021) how much money has your council raised from charging extra council tax on homes that have been vacant for two or more years?

Amount of premium charged:

2016/17: £206,251.91
2017/18: £213,726.29
2018/19: £228,371.78
2019/20: £444,953.17
2020/21: £576,592.24

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its FOI/EIR [Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response.

Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

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