25/09/19 FOI1722



## Freedom of Information Request FOI1722

## Request:

In accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Can you give me the list of empty and abandoned properties in your district?

Do you have a Property Enforcement Officer or someone in the position who's employed by the council to know which properties are empty or not in use?

Submitted on 13/09/19.

## Response:

Can you give me the list of empty and abandoned properties in your district?

No information held. The Authority do not keep records of abandoned properties.

In relation to empty domestic properties, your request is refused under Section 31 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The reason for this is that there is a public interest in ensuring that monies from the public purse, such as rebates on Council Tax accounts, are not fraudulently claimed and also a public interest in not making it easier for fraud to be committed. Please refer to the ICO Decision Notice Reference: FS50786336. For empty commercial properties, your request is refused under section 21, information accessible to the applicant by other means, of the Freedom of Information Act. The reason for this is that this information is published on a quarterly basis at the following link:

http://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/486/business-rate-accounts-data. A comparison between the Complete Property List and All Reliefs spreadsheets will provide you with the information you request. Any information held which is not yet published is exempt from disclosure in answer to this request under section 22, information intended for future publication. The information was last updated on 16 August 2019.

Do you have an Property Enforcement Officer or someone in the position who's employed by the council to know which properties are empty or not in use?

North Tyneside Council employs an Empty Homes Officer within our Regeneration Team.