

Nicola Hesketh
Project and Information Co Ordinator

Our Ref: FOI4212/NH/02
Please ask for: Nicola Hesketh
Direct dial: 01827 709 587
E-mail: FOImailbox@tamworth.gov.uk

[name redacted]
NaCSBA
58 Larkbere Road
London
SE26 4HB

24th November 2016

Dear [name redacted]

Freedom of Information – Request for Information

With regards to your recent enquiry for information held by the Authority under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Please find the information you requested below with reference in the box to your original enquiry for clarity where multiple answers are required.

Details of Your Request

On behalf of the National Custom and Self Build Association (NaCSBA) I would like to request the following information from you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

As you may be aware, from 1 April 2016 the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 (as amended by the Housing and Planning Act 2016) requires all relevant authorities to keep a register of individuals and associations of individuals who wish to acquire serviced plots of land to build their own homes in the authority's area and to have regard to those registers in carrying out their planning, housing, land disposal and regeneration functions. Section 1(2) of the 2015 Act also requires each relevant authority to publicise its register.

In this context, I am requesting the following information from your authority:

- If your authority holds a self-build and custom housebuilding register, whether it has publicised such a register and, if so, how this has been done (eg. local media, council webpage);*
- How many permissioned serviced building plots have been made available between 1 April and 31 October 2016 to meet the demand on the register; and,*
- Whether your authority has a local policy to facilitate self-build and custom housebuilding in your adopted local development plan, or is intending to introduce one.*

The response to your request as follows:

- The following web address will provide information on the Council's self-build and custom build register: <http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/self-build-and-custom-housing-build> Depending on the outcome of investigations identified below, further publicity will be planned.
- No plots have been made available at this stage. However, 2 individuals are listed on the register and the Council is currently investigating the availability and suitability of plots within its ownership. Part of these investigations will ascertain whether the plots are fully serviced and therefore easily developable with a view to their release for development, subject to Council approvals.
- The Local Plan which was adopted in February 2016 does not contain a policy on self-build, however, the demand is yet to be tested. If there is a clear demand then a policy will be considered in the next iteration of the plan.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT USE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FoIA)

Most of the information that we provide in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In most cases the copyright will be owned by Tamworth Borough Council. The copyright in other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated on the information itself.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own non-commercial research or private study purposes. The information may also be used for any other purpose allowed by a limitation or exception in copyright law, such as news reporting.

However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing the information in analogue or digital form, including on the internet, will require the permission of the copyright owner. For information where the copyright is owned by Tamworth Borough Council details of the conditions on re-use can be provided on application to the contact below.

For information where the copyright is owned by another person or organisation you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission.

This council also believes in transparency of information, this includes requests made under the Freedom of Information Act and the Environmental Information Regulations and we reserve the right to publish these requests in our Disclosure Log along with the response, the requestors name and/or company where the information is requested on a regular basis. Care shall be taken not to publish your email address or physical address where it is considered personal information as defined under the Data Protection Act 1998.

Project and Information Coordinator,
Tamworth Borough Council,
Marmion House,
Lichfield Street,
Tamworth,
B79 7BZ

Details of Tamworth Borough Council's internal review and complaints procedure are attached, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Hesketh
Project and Information Coordinator