

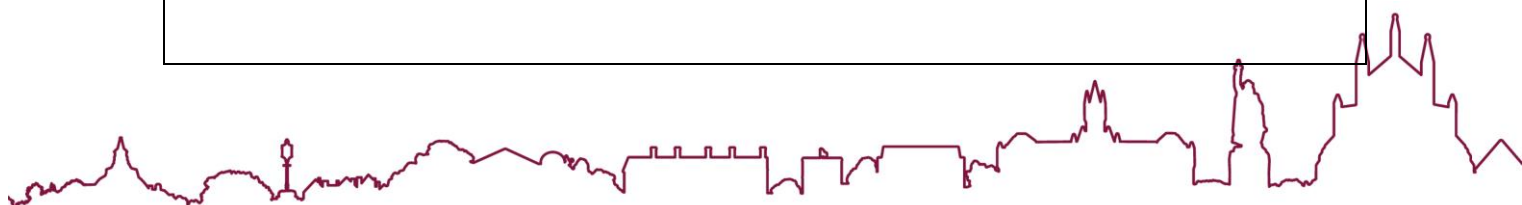
FOI REF:	15673
RESPONSE SENT:	30/06/2025

Request

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

- 1) What's the current number of empty properties and long term empty properties across the council, as of June 2? If a figure is not available for June 2, please provide the most up-to-date figure available and state the date for which that figure is accurate. How many of those are owned by the council? What were the numbers as of 2 June 2019, in terms again of empty properties, long term empty properties, and council-owned empty/long term empty properties?
- 2) How many people were on the social housing waiting lists on those two dates?
- 3) What's the reason that the long term empty properties are currently void? Please provide a breakdown by void status – i.e. classifying them as available (Undergoing works, Ready for Occupation, TA: Ready for letting, Long cycle void group, Major Works, Minor repairs), temporarily unavailable (Unauthorised Occupant, Squatted, Capital void, Redevelopment), and permanently unavailable (Demolition, Disposal) or a similar classification method that you use.
- 4) Since 2019, have you undertaken any work around reducing your long term empty properties? If you have, was this done using internal resources, third party resources, or both?
- 5) How many properties were brought back into use as a result in each of those years since 2019? What were the average financial costs per property, in order for them to be brought back into use?
- 6) What work is the council currently undertaking and what is it planning to undertake when it comes to reducing its long term empty properties?
- 7) Does the council offer financial support, in terms of grants or loans, to Long Term Empty property owners to help them bring properties back into use? If yes, how many owners have made use of that in every year since 2019?
- 8) What's the budget, if any, that the council has allocated for supporting the reduction of empty properties?

Please provide such data electronically, ideally as an Excel spreadsheet.



Response

1)

	01-Jun-19	01-Jun-25
Empty	894	930
Long Term Empty (6 months)	401	396

WCC owned as at 02/06/2025:

Empty	111
of which Long Term Void	23

2) 1st April 2019 – 1,309

2nd June 2025 – 1649

3) Data not held by PSH.

WCC owned as at 02/06/2025:

Breakdown of 111 empty properties:

Undergoing Works	18
Ready to Let	65
Major Works	3
Temp unavailable	20
Perm Unavailable	5

LTV Breakdown:

Row Labels	Count of Property Sequence Number
Long Term Void	3
LTV - Await Post Inspect	1
LTV - Awaiting Major Works	3
LTV - Awaiting Retrofit	2
LTV - Awaiting Works	1
LTV - Re-development	13
Grand Total	23

4) Private Sector Housing will investigate complaints when received, using internal resources, and try and engage with owners to bring their empty homes back into use. However, WCC was granted an Interim EDMO in April 2019 and a Final

EDMO in 2020 which resulted in the property being let to a family facing homelessness.

Landlord Services review void properties and monitor re-let times on a weekly basis. Options are considered for hard to let properties including allocating to TA for homelessness provision and opportunities for redevelopment.

5) Renovation works for the EDMO coat approximately £50k.

6) Please see the WCC Empty Homes Strategy for 2022-2027 which can be found at [Empty Properties - Winchester City Council](#)

7) No.

8) No budget allocated.

