31 July 2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 737/18

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request:

This email is an application for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act. Please could you provide the following information:

1. Do you, as a local authority, currently have a self or custom-build register as required under the Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015?

   Answer: Yes

2. Please could you detail the eligibility criteria required to sign up?

   Answer: Information about the Rutland Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Register can be found via the following link:


   In order to register the applicant or each member of the association will need to meet the following criteria:

   - be aged 18 or older;
   - be a British citizen, a national of a European Economic Area (EEA) state other than the United Kingdom, or a national of Switzerland; and
   - meet the local connection test (see below) to be entered onto Part 1 of the register.
   - pay a registration fee to the council of £75 (this will increase to £77 from 1 April 2018).
   - be seeking (either alone or with others) to acquire a serviced plot of land in the relevant authority’s area to build a house to occupy as that individual’s sole or main residence

   The local connection test is as follows:

   In order to meet the local connection test, you or each member of the association will need to:
• have lived and/or to have been in paid employment in Rutland for the preceding year, or for a total of three years out of the preceding five years OR
• have an immediate family member who has lived in Rutland for the past three years. (Immediate family means a parent, child or sibling. Step and half relatives count as full relatives.) OR
• be in the service of the regular or reserve armed forces of the Crown or to have applied within five years of discharge (the test will also be met where another household member meets this test, including cases of bereavement but not lodgers).

3. Is there a fee to join the self-build register, if so, how much is the fee?
Answer: £75 (detailed via link at question 2)

4. Are you advertising the register publicly? If yes, please detail how?
Answer: Yes, on the Rutland County Council website (link at question 2).

5. How many people are currently signed up to the register?
Answer: Published data available:
At 31 October 2017 (the end of the second base period) 42 people were registered with the Council (website link at question 2).

6. Please could you detail the measures you are going to, to respond to demand on the register? (for example-provision of plots, working with developers/housing associations, relevant local plan policies etc)
Answer: In order to promote self-build and custom house building in Rutland, Rutland County Council has included a draft policy in the Consultation Draft Local Plan Review which would require developers of sites of 20 dwellings or more to supply at least 5% of dwelling plots for sale to self-builders, subject to appropriate demand being identified.

The Consultation Draft Local Plan can be viewed via the link below:


7. How many plots have been provided since the introduction of the register?
Answer: Monitoring information since the end of the first base period is detailed within the 2016/17 Authority Monitoring Report via the link below:


Monitoring of the Council’s Community Infrastructure records has shown that since the end of the first base period on 30 October 2016, a total of 13 plots of land have been granted permission and awarded Community Infrastructure Levy self-build exemption (as at 30 October 2017).
8. How many applications for self-build have been granted since the register?

Answer: See answer to question 7.

9. How many applications for self-build have been refused since the register?

Answer: Rutland County Council does not hold this information as it is not monitored.

10. How many applications for self-build are currently in process?

Answer: Information available is up to the end of the first base period (as at 30 October 2017). At 30 October 2017 the CIL liability and self-build status of 9 dwellings was being assessed.

11. How many self-build homes have been completed since the register? (if known)

Answer: Monitoring information available: of the 13 plots of land granted permission since the end of the first base period (as at 30 October 2016), zero properties had been completed as at 31 March 2017.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Data Protection Officer, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Business Support Team
Rutland County Council