



Derry City & Strabane
District Council

Comhairle
**Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSratha Báin**

Derry Cittie & Stràbane
Destrict Cooncil

Ref: EIR / 740

26 August 2016

Mr
Citigate Dewe Rogerson
3 London Wall Buildings
London
EC2M 5SY

Email: @citigatedr.co.uk

Dear Mr

Environmental Information Regulations 2004 Request Empty Residential Properties

I refer to your EIR request as above and respond as follows:

Derry City and Strabane District Council was formed under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 and came into legal existence on 1 April 2015, replacing the former councils of Derry City Council and Strabane District Council. Requests made to the legacy councils since 1 April 2015 are being handled by the Derry City and Strabane District Council and requests made to the legacy councils will be treated as one request.

The Council has undertaken a search of its records held by building control and the planning office and can confirm that it holds relevant recorded information. However, both the Planning Office and Building Control have advised this information is not held in relevant recorded format and is held only in individual file hard copy format and therefore to extract the information required would require a manual examination of all relevant files held.

Building Control have confirmed that residential basement applications are not specifically identified as separate applications but taken as extensions to dwellings on

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98 Strand Road
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Council's new software package. The Building Control records for the now extant legal entities are held in different locations in paper format and we deem it manifestly unreasonable to produce this information as outlined in regulation 12(4)(b) of the Environmental Information Regulations:

"Regulation 12(4)(b)

- dealing with a request would create unreasonable costs or an **unreasonable diversion of resources;**"

Please note we consider this exception to be concerned with the nature of the request and the impact of dealing with it and not any adverse effect that might arise from disclosure of the content of the information requested. The public interest in maintaining this exception lies in protecting us from exposure to disproportionate burden and disruption in handling this information request which to comply with would thereby place a strain on resources and get in the way of Council delivering mainstream services.

Under Regulation 9(1) of the EIR we are obliged to provide advice and assistance, so far as it would be reasonable to expect us to do so, however in this instance Council regrets that we cannot assist or suggest how you could refine your request.

If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes. Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie
Chief Executive
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN Tel 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Head of Capital Development and Building Control