East Lothian Council

EIR Ref: 2018/204

Please provide the following information. I make this request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Q1) In each of the following financial years:

2013-14 2014-15 2015-16 2016-17 2017-to present date of this request

Please state for each year:

a) how many (number) of homes have been approved b) how many (number) of these were affordable homes.

Details of approved applications and the number of affordable homes in each are set out in East Lothian's Housing Land Audits. They are available on East Lothian Council's (ELC) website which means that, for the purposes of this legislation, this part of your request is excepted under Regulation 6(1)(b) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 as the information is already publicly available and easily accessible in another form or format. We have, however, provided links to the relevant items for your convenience:

2013/2014:

http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/9704/housing land audit 2014

2014/2015:

http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/11423/housing land audit 2015

2015/2016:

http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/12904/housing_land_audit_2016

2016/2017:

http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/12905/housing land audit 2017

2017/2018 – the audit has not yet been undertaken for this period. In view of this, under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004, I must formally advise you that ELC has been unable to comply with this part of your request as the information you require is not held.

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Q2) What is your current affordable housing target expressed as a percentage.

25% of the proportion of sites of 5 or more homes. No requirement on sites of 4 homes or less.

Q3) How many Section 106 agreements have agreed with developers since the Growth and Infrastructure Act became law in April 2013? Please break this down into the same financial years as in Q1

Section 106 Agreements are not relevant in Scotland, Section 75 Agreements apply here. Details of all Section 75 Agreements registered are available via the Registers of Scotland. The following number of agreements for sites of 5 or more dwellings were agreed in the following years:

2013/14 - 16 2014/15 - 16 2015/16 - 9 2016/17 - 17 2017/18 - 12

Q4) How many of these Section 106 agreements successfully resulted in the loss or gain in the number of affordable homes?

All of the above apart from 3, secured an increase in additional affordable homes.

Q5) For each financial year, please state:

a) The total number of affordable homes that have been lost or gained as a result of the renegotiations

b) How this compares with the number originally specified.

There have been no renegotiations either increasing or reducing the level of affordable housing provision in any of these Section 75 Agreements.

Finally, you may also be interested in the following news article published in ELC's website:

http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/news/article/2629/council housing boost for east lothian communities