

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA101018-4916

6 November 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 10 October 2018. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Our response to your request is as follows:

- *Can you tell me how councils come to post properties on the scheme?*

We provide access to nominated borough and Housing Association staff who can load the properties onto the system and prepare them for advertising. Once the bid cycle has closed, they can then carry out the shortlisting process and invite applicants to view.

- *Is it through the Mayor of London office request?*

At the beginning of each financial year the GLA provides targets to the boroughs for the number of properties they need to advertise. The g15 group of Housing Associations also advertise properties through the scheme and each landlord within that group is provided a target for the number of properties they need to advertise during the year.

- *Many councils do not post on the scheme at all even though I was told all councils except Kensington and Chelsea are part of the scheme. Is it still the case that all council except Kensington and Chelsea are part of the scheme?*

Yes, the only borough not participating is Kensington and Chelsea.

- *Do you have any plans to improve the scheme? Or plans for councils to post more properties on the scheme?*

We have recently restructured the Housing Mobility team to increase engagement with landlords and we hope that this will result in more properties becoming available in the coming months.

- *How many properties do each council need to provide to the scheme (yearly or quarterly)?*

Each year we use the borough's most recent, published lettings statistics and then calculate five percent of these figures. This gives the total number of homes they need to advertise through the scheme for the following year.. The g15 landlords also have a set number of properties that they need to advertise each year.

- *How is this monitored and do councils post properties when they are due to?*

We monitor contributions during the year and liaise with borough and Housing Associations where performance is falling. The participating boroughs are required to divide their property contributions throughout the four quarters of the year. This is monitored and reminders of their commitment for the existing and following quarters are sent regularly.

- *Most council housing departments have not even heard of the scheme which is hugely disheartening.*

Applications and referrals to the scheme remain high and more Housing Associations are joining the scheme each year.

In summary, with the recent restructuring of the GLA Housing Moves team, we expect that the number of properties being advertised will begin to increase.

For more information on the scheme please visit:

<http://www.housingmoves.org/housingmoves/CFEFaq.jsp>

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this letter

Yours sincerely

Paul Robinson
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>