

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our reference: MGLA050122-1000

Date: 3 February 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 5 January 2022. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

Please kindly advise, in relation to estate redevelopments which have secured or are seeking to secure GLA funding:

- 1. The number of estates which have undergone a ballot in which the proposed plans included total or partial demolition.*
- 2. The number of estates which have undergone a ballot and returned a yes vote (to the respective council's proposed plans).*
- 3. The number of estates which have undergone a ballot and returned a no vote (to the respective council's proposed plans).*
- 4. The number of complaints the GLA has received in relation to estate ballots, and a brief description of the issues raised in these complaints.*
- 5. If the GLA has any policies and/or guidance as to the amount of public money which can be spent by a council to promote their proposed redevelopment plans. If so, what this policy/guidance states.*

Our response to your request is as follows:

The GLA does not collect information on estate ballots in which the proposed plans included total or partial demolition, nor those which have undergone a ballot and returned a 'no' vote. The Resident Ballot Requirement applies as a condition of GLA funding, for Strategic Estate Regeneration, which is defined as a project involving:

- Demolition of any affordable or leasehold homes whose freehold or long leasehold a Registered Provider owns on an existing social housing estate, and/or the demolition of any freehold properties previously acquired under the Right to Buy, Right to Acquire, or Social HomeBuy schemes on an existing social housing estate; and
- Construction of at least 150 new homes, regardless of tenure, within the boundaries of an existing social housing estate.

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Investment Partners (IPs) are required to confirm to the GLA that a ballot has been held only at the point at which they are seeking grant funding. In confirming the ballot has been held, they are asked to submit a checklist signed by both the IP and the Independent Body, that sets out in 'yes' or 'no' answers, whether they have complied with the GLA's guidance. If the answer is ever 'no' the GLA may determine that an IP has failed to provide evidence of a positive ballot in favour of the Landlord Offer to residents.

As such we would not necessarily have sight of other ballots that have taken place in London and therefore cannot report systematically or reliably on this.

For data on the estates where GLA ballots have taken place and returned a 'yes' vote, please see the following list which is ordinarily updated on a quarterly basis.

https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/for_website_-_list_of_positive_ballot_25.11.21.pdf

The GLA does not have policies or guidance as to the amount of public money which can be spent by a council to promote their proposed redevelopment plans.

Since 2019 there have been 47 items of correspondence containing the word ballot. Please note this search may contain content from subject areas other than estate regeneration and would not capture instances where a correspondent may have used the word vote instead. It also doesn't take into account material that may be held in archives or outside the record management system. Therefore, this number should not be considered as a conclusive representation of correspondence.

In regard to providing a description of the communications, we do not hold a summary of correspondence in a recorded format and are unable to create a log of this nature, as such we are unable to provide a view of this information.

More widely, estate ballot complaints should be directed to the relevant independent body per [Section 8](#) of the Capital Funding Guide.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA050122-1000.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance

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>