**Wolverhampton
City Council**

Response to Request for Information

Reference   FOI 061558
Date   11 June 2015

Right to Buy

Request and response in 'blue**':**

This is a freedom of information request. Could I have the following please, preferably in electronic format:

1   How many properties have been sold under "Right To Buy" since April 2012?

   577 properties have been sold through Right to Buy between 1 April 2012 and 11 June 2015.

2   How many of these were sold to applicants who were in receipt of Housing Benefit at the point of application?

   In order to provide this information we can confirm that the Council holds information falling within the description specified in your request. However, Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows a public authority to refuse a request if the cost of providing the information to the applicant would exceed the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information.

   The Regulations provide that the appropriate limit to be applied to requests received by local authorities is £450 (equivalent to 2.5 days of work). In estimating the cost of complying with a request for information, an authority can only take into account any reasonable costs incurred in:

   (a) Determining whether it holds the information,
   (b) locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,
   (c) retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information, and
   (d) extracting the information from a document containing it".

   For the purposes of the estimate the costs of performing these activities should be estimated at a rate of £25 per hour.

   In order to determine the information you have requested we would need to interrogate each individual rent account in order to determine how many of these were sold to applicants who were in receipt of Housing Benefit at the

point of application.

This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe that the aggregated time that it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).