



# Freedom of Information Request FOI1224

## Request:

1. Can the council confirm their current number of Long Term Empty Properties as of the 8th May (those domestic properties which have been empty for six months or older)
2. What work is the council currently undertaking or planning to undertake around reducing their long term empty properties in 2019?
3. During 2018 did you undertake any work around reducing your Long Term Empty Properties. If you did was this done using internal resource or a third party?
4. If yes is the answer to question three, did the council review every single long term property
5. Does the reduction of empty homes in the council area form part of your Housing strategy?
6. Does the council have a budget in place to help support the reduction of empty properties?
7. How much did the council spend on temporary accommodation during 2018?
8. Does the council offer financial support /loans to Long Term Empty property owners to help them bring properties back into use?

Submitted on 09/05/19.

## Response:

1. Can the council confirm their current number of Long Term Empty Properties as of the 8th May (those domestic properties which have been empty for six months or older)

### **Council tax data indicates 1316 private sector empty homes**

2. What work is the council currently undertaking or planning to undertake around reducing their long term empty properties in 2019?

### **The council continue to offer an Empty Homes Leasing Scheme, Deposit Guarantee Scheme, Property Purchase (dependent on assessment) as well as general advice and assistance**

3. During 2018 did you undertake any work around reducing your Long Term Empty Properties. If you did was this done using internal resource or a third party?

### **Yes, Internal**

4. If yes is the answer to question three, did the council review every single long term property

### **Long term empty homes are reviewed and a letter sent to targeted areas on a rolling programme over a 12 month period.**

5. Does the reduction of empty homes in the council area form part of your Housing strategy?

### **Yes**

6. Does the council have a budget in place to help support the reduction of empty properties?

### **Yes**

7. How much did the council spend on temporary accommodation during 2018?

### **£261,357.12 was spent. This is the expenditure and does not include any rental or benefits income received**

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North Tyneside Council

**towards the cost**

8. Does the council offer financial support /loans to Long Term Empty property owners to help them bring properties back into use?

**Yes**