

FOI number: **HBC\_FOI\_20200535**  
Date FOI Received: **14/09/2020**  
Department: **Business Rates**  
Title: **Business Rate data and vacancies 2015-2020**  
Description: **Business Rate data and vacancies 2015-2020**

**Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)**

Please disclose under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your local authority's complete and most-recently updated list of all business (non-residential) property rates data including:

- Firm's trading name
- Full property address
- Occupation and vacancy status
- Date of occupation or vacancy

Can you also please disclose:

- The number of vacant commercial properties each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20;
- The number of vacant commercial properties from April 1 2020 to September 11 2020.

Can you please also break down the totals by the commercial property use class they fall under – A1 shops, A2 financial and professional services, A3 food and drink etc.

**Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)**

The information regarding the list of properties is available on our website. Please see:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Business/Business-Rates/business-rates-freedom-of-information.aspx>

The empty properties are the ones with a date in the empty date column.

**The number of empty properties by year is as follows:**

2015/16	253
2016/17	245
2017/18	254
2018/19	251
2019/20	259
2020/21	261

We do not hold the information as to which commercial property use class they are.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to

information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF  
Telephone: 01625 545700  
Website: [www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards  
Information Services

**Information Services**

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