



**Department for  
Communities and  
Local Government**

**Brandon Lewis MP**  
*Minister of State for Housing and Planning*

**Department for Communities and Local  
Government**  
Fry Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

Tom Copley AM  
City Hall  
110 The Queens Walk  
London  
SE1 2AA

Tel: 0303 444 3430  
Fax: 020 7035 0018  
E-Mail: [brandon.lewis@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:brandon.lewis@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/dclg](http://www.gov.uk/dclg)

Our Ref: 848433

17 MAR 2015

Thank you for your letter of 07 November 2014 to the Rt Hon Danny Alexander MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, asking for information about the receipts arising from the sales of council dwellings in London under the Right to Buy. I am replying, as Minister with responsibility for housing and apologise for the considerable delay in responding.

In answer to your first two questions, the total value of receipts arising from Right to Buy (or equivalent) sales that took place in the City of London and the 32 London boroughs in the financial years 2012-13 and 2013-14 was £109,400,686.72 and £303,329,319.46 respectively of which £33,848,813.85 and £52,930,771.42 respectively was paid over to the Treasury. In addition to this, repayments of mortgages and discount in respect of Right to Buy sales made before 01 April 2012 totalling £2,985,178.11 and £2,159,665.58 in 2012-13 and 2014-15 respectively were received by the same authorities. Of these a further £2,238,883.58 and £1,619,749.16 in 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively (roughly equating to 75% of the total received) were paid to Treasury. All these figures are provisional. However, they have been audited and, while in theory are susceptible to post-audit adjustment, in practice they are unlikely to vary greatly from their current level.

Since the introduction of self-financing in April 2012, a proportion of receipts continue to be payable to Treasury in order both to reflect the reduction in the amount owed by authorities to Treasury by £862 million as part of the self-financing settlement and to tackle the national deficit.

All Right to Buy receipts which are paid to the Treasury are required to go into its Consolidated Fund and are then determined in accordance with the annual local government finance settlement which is made on the basis of prudent assumptions about future receipts. The Consolidated Fund receives the proceeds of taxation, net borrowing and certain other government receipts (including Right to Buy receipts) and issues funds to finance Supply Services (payments issued to government departments to finance their net expenditure) and for other purposes. The Consolidated Fund is thus a general "pot" of money from which Government activities are funded and it is not possible to say that a particular item of spend has been funded by a particular item of revenue or borrowing. It is therefore not possible to set out specifically how the proceeds from the pooled receipts per se are used as you have requested. Information about Government accounts is routinely published, and you may find the following links helpful:

The accounts of the CF are available on the GOV.UK website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hmt-central-funds> (although Right to Buy receipts are not separately itemised).

The Whole of Government accounts set out the activities of Government at a high level (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/whole-of-government-accounts>).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brandon Lewis', is positioned above the printed name.

**BRANDON LEWIS MP**