

Empty homes and second homes

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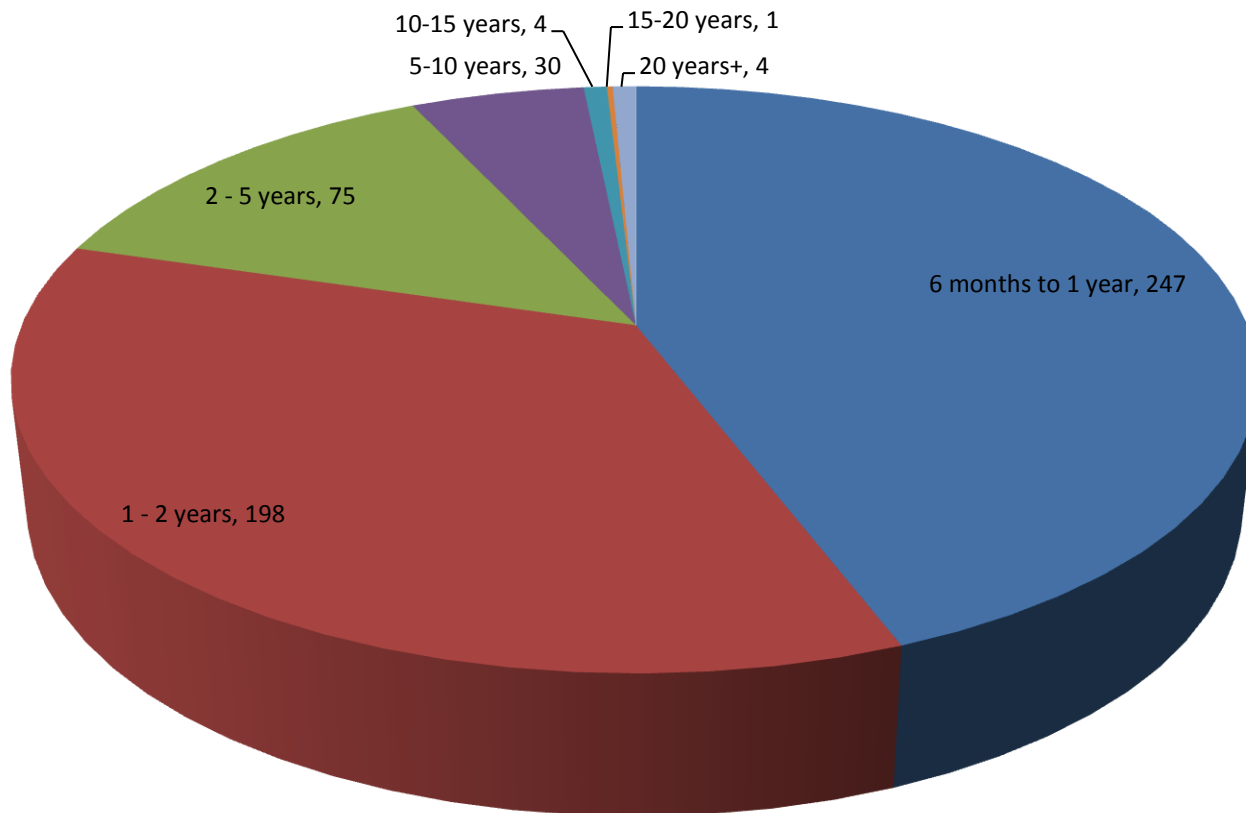
What is an empty home?

- MHCLG: a dwelling unoccupied for six months or more – excluding...
 - ✗ owner is in hospital, prison, or care
 - ✗ repossessions
 - ✗ probate
 - ✗ 'second homes'

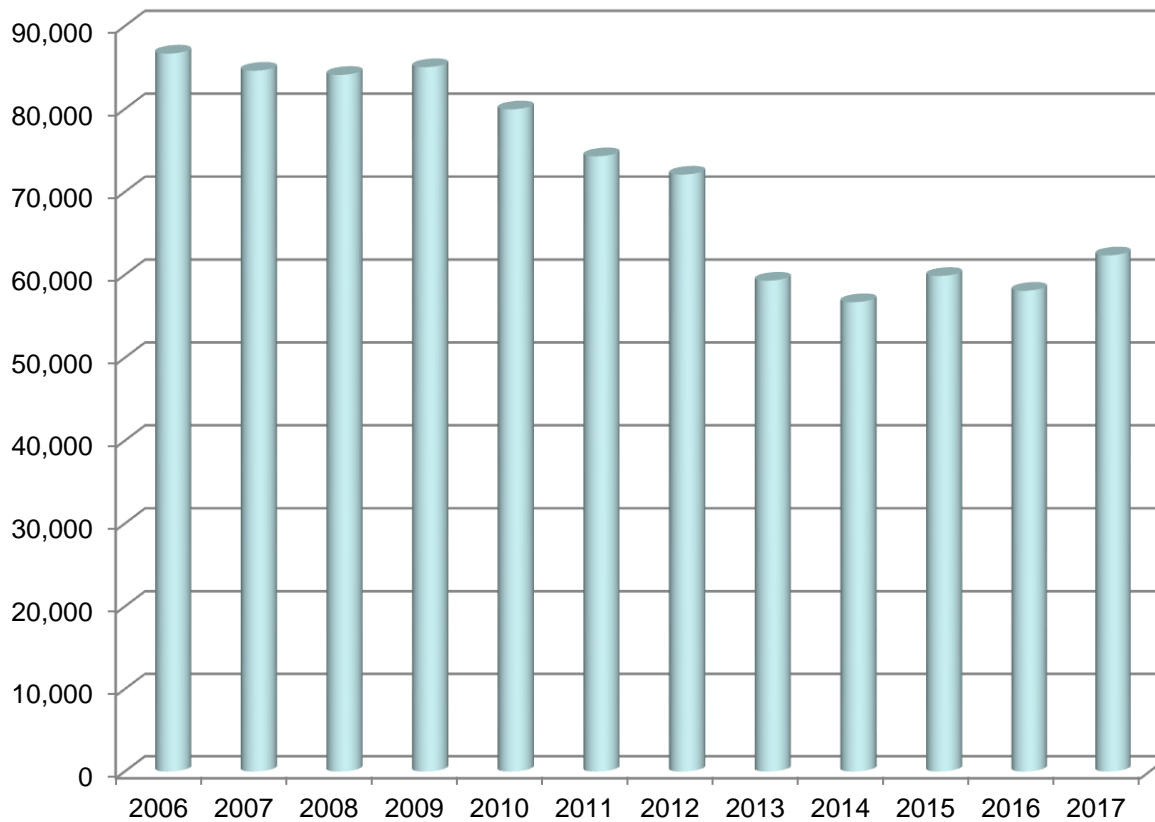
1,565 homes empty for less than 6 months



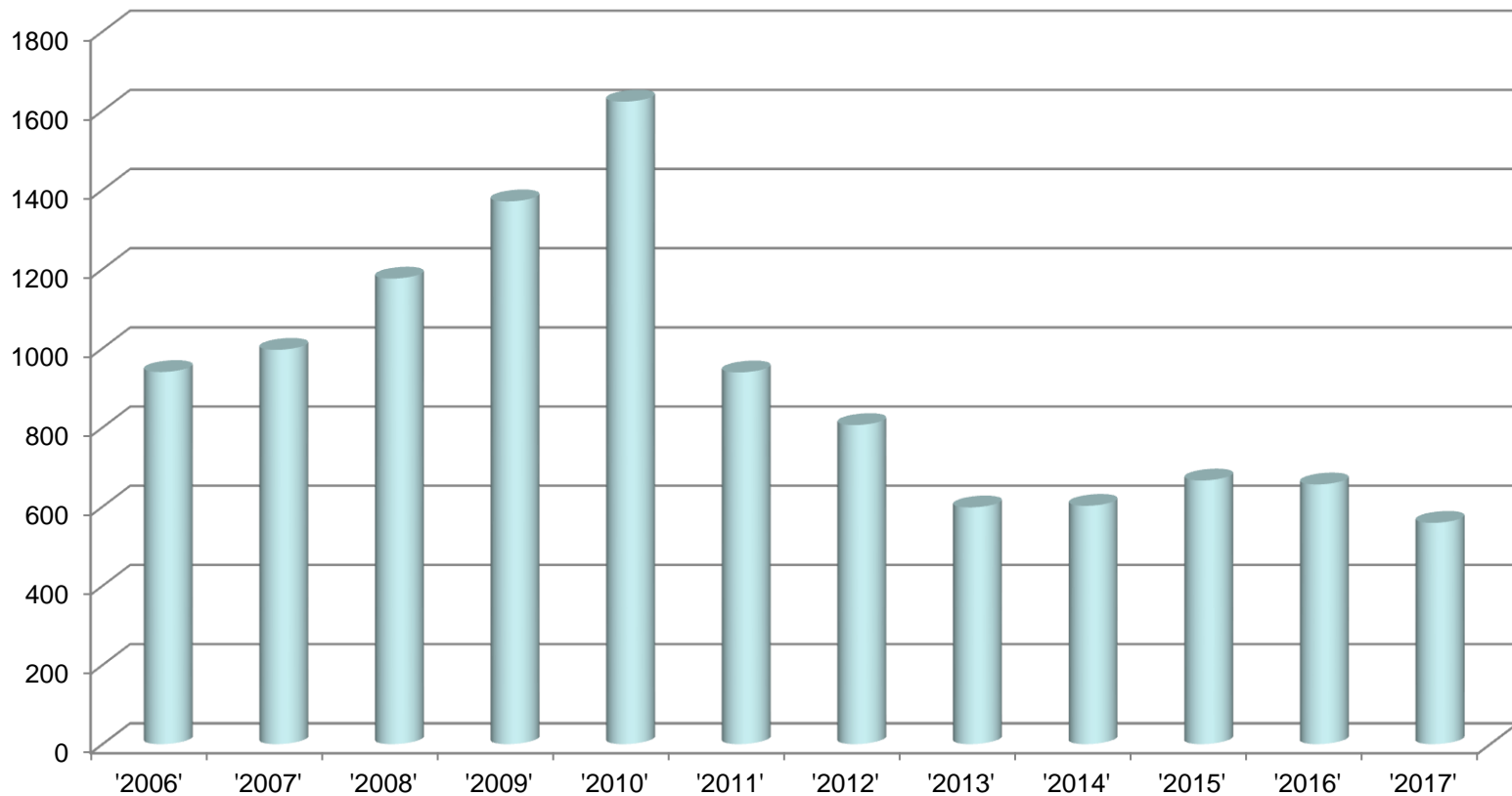
559 homes empty for more than 6 months



Empty homes in London



Empty homes in Tower Hamlets



Council Tax – ‘empty homes premium’

- April 2013: 50% premium for properties ‘unoccupied and substantially unfurnished’ for more than two years
- ‘Second Homes’? Even if ‘unoccupied’, pay standard rate if not ‘substantially unfurnished’

The Rating and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Bill 2017-19

- Awaiting date for consideration of Lords amendments
- Empty and substantially unfurnished for more than:
 - two years = 200%
 - five years = 300%
 - ten years = 400%



1,264 Second Homes

190 for between 5 & 10 years

19 for more than 10 years