



## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 000428  
Date            12 September 2016

### ***Bushbury Crematorium***

**Request:**

We, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), make the following specific requests for information.

- 1      Please provide us with details of the time between death and cremation in relation to cremations which took place at Bushbury Crematorium during the period 1 August 2015 and 31 July 2016?  
Please note we are not requesting any personal data relating to the deceased.
  
- 2      Please provide us with details of:
  - 2.1    total annual expenditure by Wolverhampton City Council on Bushbury Crematorium for the financial year between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016?
  
  - 2.2    budgeted spend by Wolverhampton City Council on Bushbury Crematorium for the financial year from 1 April 2016?

Please provide this information in electronic form if possible, although we will accept the data in paper form if it is not stored electronically.

This request is made in order to inform a public inquiry into planning applications for new crematoria. Consequently, we do not consider that the exemption under Section 43(2) of the Act would apply to any of the above requests as the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in maintaining the exemption. Further, there is no commercial advantage in providing this information and disclosure of the requested information will enable participants at the public inquiry to further understand and participate in the relevant issues under consideration.

In response to your request, it is estimated that to produce the requested information would require a review of in excess of 1300 individual records.

It is estimated that this will take a minimum of one working week of officer time, to identify, determine if held and extract the requested information. Allowing a minimum retrieval time of 3 minutes per record, this would require around 34 hours of work. On that basis, the Council invokes the provisions of Section 12 of the Act.

To explain further, Section 12 of the Act exempts Public Authorities from providing information where the estimated cost of compliance with the request exceeds the appropriate limit.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Any estimate must be made in accordance with the limits set in fees regulations made under Section 12 (5) of the Act.

These Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244 Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations) allow for a refusal to be made where the cost of compliance (for local authorities such as the Council) would exceed £450, based upon the statutory limit of £25 per hour of staff time to determine if information is held, extract and retrieve it.

The Council will be pleased to consider a revised request for information if one is submitted.

It should be advised however that further exemptions to disclosure may be engaged in regards to and retrieved requested information.