

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001111 **Date** 03 May 2017

Bus Lane - Fines

Request:

I am writing to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

1. How many motorists have been fined for entering a bus lane in the area covered by the City of Wolverhampton Council during the financial years:

2012/13; n/a 2013/14; n/a 2014/15; n/a 2015/16; 58189 2016/17: 71017

2. How many motorists living within the WV postcode area have been fined for entering a bus lane in Wolverhampton during the financial years:

2012/13; n/a 2013/14; n/a 2014/15; n/a 2015/16; 33810 2016/17: 29610

3. How many motorists living beyond the WV postcode area have been fined for entering a bus lane in Wolverhampton during the financial years:

2012/13; n/a 2013/14; n/a 2014/15; n/a 2015/16; 24379 2016/17: 41407

4. How much income has the City of Wolverhampton Council generated from penalty charge notices served on motorists entering a bus lane in Wolverhampton during the financial years:

2012/13; n/a 2013/14; n/a 2014/15; n/a 2015/16: £1 30

2015/16; £1,307,432 2016/17: £1,870,629 5. How much income has the City of Wolverhampton Council generated from penalty charge notices served on motorists residing within the WV postcode area who entered a bus lane in Wolverhampton during the financial years:

2012/13; n/a 2013/14; n/a 2014/15; n/a 2015/16; £745,869 2016/17: £777,907

6. How much income has the City of Wolverhampton Council generated from motorists living beyond the WV postcode area who entered a bus lane in Wolverhampton during the financial years:

2012/13; n/a 2013/14; n/a 2014/15; n/a 2015/16; £561,563 2016/17: £1,092,721

7. How many motorists have successfully appealed against penalty charge notices issued to them for entering a bus lane in Wolverhampton during the financial years:

2012/13; 2013/14; 2014/15; 2015/16; 2016/17: See Q9

8. How many motorists living within the WV postcode area have successfully appealed against penalty charge notices issued to them for entering a bus lane in Wolverhampton during the financial years:

2012/13; 2013/14; 2014/15; 2015/16; 2016/17: See Q9

9. How many motorists living beyond the WV postcode area have successfully appealed against penalty charge notices issued to them for entering a bus lane in Wolverhampton during the financial years:

2012/13; 2013/14; 2014/15; 2015/16; 2016/17:

Questions 7 – 9: Your request for information has now been considered. Unfortunately City of Wolverhampton Council cannot supply the information you requested for the reasons set out below. Section 17 of the Freedom of

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Information Act 2000 requires City of Wolverhampton Council, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you, the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies:

In relation to your particular request, the following exemption applies:

Section 12 - Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

We can confirm that the Council holds information falling within the description specified in your request. However, Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows a public authority to refuse a request if the cost of providing the information to the applicant would exceed the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information.

The Regulations provide that the appropriate limit to be applied to requests received by local authorities is £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of work). In estimating the cost of complying with a request for information, an authority can only take into account any reasonable costs incurred in:

- (a) Determining whether it holds the information,
- (b) Locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,
- (c) Retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information,

and

(d) Extracting the information from a document containing it.

For the purposes of the estimate the costs of performing these activities should be estimated at a rate of £25 per hour.

The information appertaining to these questions is not easily accessible and as such this information is not held as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on. Our management system does not collectively record this information and as such each individual case would have to be opened to determine the actual detail. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe that the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

10. How has the City of Wolverhampton Council spent the income from penalty charges for entering a bus lane in Wolverhampton which was generated during the financial years:

2012/13; 2013/14; 2014/15; 2015/16:

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

2016/17:

The council cannot provide a breakdown for Bus Lane income spent.