

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 001221  
Date            13 June 2017

### ***Refuse Collectors Assaulted by Members of the Public***

#### **Request:**

1. In the last financial year 2016/17 how many incidents did your authority record where refuse collectors were assaulted by members of the public while carrying out council duties? Please give a brief description of the circumstances of the incident.

NOTE: By refuse collectors I mean all employees whose main duties are involved in the collection of rubbish (all types) from homes and businesses with your authority.

During the last financial year 2016/17 we had one incident.

This was an assault to a street cleansing operative undertaking his duties in the Wolverhampton's City Centre. The assailant began to argue with the operative, hit his throat, grabbed his arm and kicked his leg. Assailant then threatened operative before leaving.

In addition to the above information we do record instances of verbal abusive or aggressive behaviour from residents towards operatives. For the last financial year 2016/17 we had 65 reported incidents. Please note there may be more towards employees but all operatives report them.