



Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001408
Date 08 August 2017

Food Hygiene Inspector Reports

Request:

Please would you provide me with all recent Food Inspectors' full reports for the food hygiene ratings in your area? Ideally, I would like every report from the past year.

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For the financial years 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 please provide the following:

- The total amount of money the authority has overpaid staff in each financial year listed above?
- The number of staff members, including the directorates they work for, overpaid in each financial year listed above?
- The amount of money overpaid to each staff member during each financial year listed above?
- The total amount of money the authority has recovered from any overpayments made?

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 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 this request is not easily accessible and as such this information is not held as a distinct set able to be retrieved. To get the information would require a full scale look into all the 735 food hygiene ratings that have taken place in the last 12 months and this will require the need to retrieve, extract and collate all the information from each individual case. 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).