

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001517
Date 19 September 2017

Pest Control in Schools

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act can you provide me with the following information:

- 1.) How many incidents requiring pest control in schools (including special schools) and nurseries have been reported by your council over the last three years? Please provide the information broken down for the last three financial years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016/17).
2. Please provide the type of problem and/or type of pest reported for each case reported. For example: - Rat spotted in store cupboard - Mice droppings - Ant infestation
3. Please break down by i) primary schools ii) secondary schools iii) nurseries. If you can only provide information for schools, please do not delay my request to inform me, but exclude nurseries from my request.
4. Providing you hold this information: How much money has school pest control cost over the last three financial years? Please break down by year.

In respect of your above questions, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information as schools do not have to use the City of Wolverhampton Council's pest control service to treat an infestation. They could use a private company. As such we cannot provide quantifiable information on the number of school infestations. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

I can inform you that a few schools/nurseries, have an annual contract with the council's pest control service whereby we carry out a set number of visits during the year to prevent infestations and treat when necessary. An average annual contract costs £300 per year.