

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 001550  
Date            2 October 2017

### *FOI Requests and Section 21 Exemptions*

**Request:**

- 1) How many FOI requests did you receive in the year Jan 1st 2016 - Dec 31st 2016 (or your equivalent business/financial year), and;  
2015/2016 = 1,155  
2016/2017 = 1,087
- 2) How many FOI Section 21 exemptions did you employ during this same time period?

In response to your above question, following careful consideration the council regrets to inform you that it has decided not to disclose this information.

Information you have requested has been withheld from disclosure. The exemption engaged in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

Section 12 of the FOI exempts Public Authorities from providing information where the estimated cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. Any estimate must be undertaken in accordance with the limits set in Fees Regulations made under Section (5) of the FOI.

These Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244 Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations) allow for a refusal where the cost of compliance, for local authorities such as the Council, would exceed £450. As a guide, staff time to identify and extract this information is charged at a rate of £25 per hour.

In summary to provide the information you have requested would take us at least three days (21 hours) to compile as we do not record the number of FOI requests where we applied the Section 21 exemption and therefore we would have to undertake a manual trawl of the above number of FOI requests received to produce the detailed analysis you require.