

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001552
Date 2 October 2017

Subject Access Requests and FOI Section 40(1) Exemptions

Request:

- 1) How many Subject Access Requests did you receive in the year Jan 1st 2016 to Dec 31st 2016 (or your equivalent business/financial year), and;
[2015/16 \(Apr-Mar\) 476](#)
[2016/17 \(Apr-Mar\) 351](#)
- 2) How many FOI Section 40(1) exemptions did you employ during this same time period?

In response to your question 2, 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.

We received 1,155 FOI requests in 2015/16 and 1,087 FOI requests in 2016/17. 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 40(1) 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.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]