

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 001572  
Date            12 October 2017

### ***Road Conditions***

#### **Request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I seek the following information (held by your insurance team) regarding damage to vehicles caused by poor road conditions on roads under your local authority administration for **each** financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17. **For each year:**

- 1) How many claims did you close in 2015/16 and 2016/17 regardless of their year of submission, or the date of the alleged incident?  
[See table attached.](#)
- 2) How many claims remain open for 2015/16 and 2016/17 regardless of their year of submission, or the date of the alleged incident?  
[See table attached.](#)
- 3) The total monetary value of all the claims for vehicle damage caused by, or attributed to, the condition of your road network (such as potholes) for 2015/16 and 2016/17 regardless of their year of submission, or the date of the alleged incident?  
[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 is 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 12 \(5\) 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 it would take us at least three days (21 hours) to compile as we would have to manually trawl through each case to gather the information you have requested. This is because once a claim is closed the reserve is changed to £0 so therefore we cannot report retrospectively on reserve amounts.

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”.*

- 4) The total number of successful claims (on the part of the claimant) for vehicle damage caused by or attributed to the condition of your road network (such as potholes) for 2015/16 and 2016/17 regardless of their year of submission, or the date of the alleged incident?  
[See table attached.](#)
- 5) The total monetary value of the successful claims for vehicle damage caused by or attributed to the conditions of your road network (such as potholes) for 2015/16 and 2016/17 regardless of their year of submission, or the date of the alleged incident?  
[See table attached.](#)

	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
1. No claims closed at end of year	72	53
2. Claims open at end of year	34	43
Total Claims (Q1 + Q2)	106	96
3. Values of all claims	*	*
4. Number of claims admitted in year	21	12
5. Compensation payments in year	12 payments totalling £2254.46	17 payments totalling £7126.69