

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 002015  
Date            2 March 2018

### ***Cremations***

#### **Request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to ask for statistics on the following:

1. How many cremations did your crematorium(s) perform in each of the last ten years?
2. How many of these cremations opted not to hold a service at your crematoria in each of the last ten years?
3. If known, how many were direct cremations in each of the last ten years?

In response to your above questions, please see the table below providing you with our response.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Question 1</b>	<b>Question 2</b>	<b>Question 3</b>
2009	2,409	484	2
2010	2,251	406	0
2011	2,388	423	0
2012	2,484	472	2
2013	2,401	416	9
2014	2,480	375	3
2015	2,674	455	2
2016	2,601	406	0
2017	2,762	413	5

With reference to information for the year 2018, your request has been considered and the City of Wolverhampton Council is not obliged to 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 Act.

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
- (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 for this particular year is not easily accessible and as such this information is not held as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on. To supply the information would require a manual trawl of records as the year in question coincided with the change to our database.