

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 002878
Date 17 October 2018

Wolverhampton's City Centre Shopping Area

Request:

For 2007, 2012 and 2017 (full calendar years) can you please provide the following information? Please note this is in relation to Wolverhampton's city centre shopping area.

1. What was the level of business rates been for each year per square foot?
With reference to question 1, your request for information has now 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:

We 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".

However, I can inform you that the calculation and value of rateable values can be sourced through the Valuation Office Agency at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/valuation-office-agency>

2. How many retail premises were closed or been left vacant?

With reference to question 2, your request for information has now 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.

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,*
- and*
- (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 appertaining to your request is not easily accessible as do not record the reasons for an account ending and so are unable to identify retail premises that have closed and as such this information is not held as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on.

To get the information would require a full scale look into each individual account. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe that the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

However, we can provide you with the following information based on financial years which we hope will be of use:

In 2007-2008 a total of 210 retail premises in the defined area were empty for at least one day.

In 2012-2013 a total of 329 retail premises in the defined area were empty for at least one day.

In 2017-2018 a total of 267 retail premises in the defined area were empty for at least one day.

Please note that the above information has been based on the area within the ring road around Wolverhampton's City Centre shopping area.

3. What was the average council-controlled parking cost (please share the tariffs for council car parks in the city)?
Please see attached information.
4. What was the total number of cars that used council run parking facilities and what is the maximum capacity at council run parking facilities?
Please see attached information.
5. How many private car parks did you licence?
We do not issue licences for private car parks.
 - a. If the information is available, what was/is the total capacity of licensed car parks for each of these years?
6. What was the average single journey bus charge?
With reference to question 6, your request for information has now 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:

In respect of questions 6 and 7 above, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information.

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".

It may be that Transport for West Midlands would hold this information.

7. What was the number of bus journeys that terminated or started in the city centre?
See response provided for question 6.
8. If a local park and ride is available – what was the cost per return journey?
With reference to question 8, your request for information has now 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:

We can confirm that the department holds information that you have asked for in relation to the above. However, the information is exempt under section 21 of the FOI Act because it is reasonably accessible to you, and I am pleased to inform you that you can access it on our website via the following link:
<http://www.parkandride.net/wolverhampton/index.shtml>

Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act exempts disclosure of information that is reasonably accessible by other means, and the terms of the exemption mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

You can find out more about Section 21 by reading the extract from the Act, available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/21>

Overall Yearly Usage

Car Park	2012 Total	2017 Total
Civic Centre Car Park	271762	179096
Fold Street Car Park	217261	213042
Market Car Park	86420	55244
School Street Car Park	94979	60731
Temple Street Car Park	1124	64043
Cleveland Street/Snow Hill Car Park	2407	172790
Broad Street Car Park	105238	110293
Peel Street Car Park	7867	6538
Church Lane Car Park	16765	24643
Faulkland Street Car Park	13097	14609
St Peters Car Park	4019	13024
Oxford Street Car Park	16353	25861
Whitmore Street Car Park	0	25927
Clifton Street Car Park	0	4684
Bell Street Car Park	0	1743
Overall Total	837292	972268

City of Wolverhampton Council - Short Stay Car Park charges

Civic Centre Car Park (pay on foot)

£

Operates Monday- Saturday 7:00am - 8:00pm
Closed Sunday (Open for special events)

Up to 1 hour	1.50
Up to 2 hours	3.00
Up to 3 hours	4.00
Up to 4 hours	5.50
Up to 5 hours	6.50
Up to 6 hours	10.00
Over 6 hours	12.50

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:00pm - 8:00pm 3.00

Lost Tickets 12.50

Fold Street Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Up to 1 hour	0.70
Up to 2 hours	1.20
Up to 3 hours	2.50
Up to 4 hours	4.00
Up to 5 hours	5.50
Over 5 hours	8.00

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm 1.00

Market Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Up to 1 hour	0.70
Up to 2 hours	1.20
Up to 3 hours	2.50
Up to 4 hours	4.00
Up to 5 hours	5.50
Over 5 hours	8.00

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm 1.00

School Street Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Up to 1 hour	0.70
--------------	------

Up to 2 hours	1.20
Up to 3 hours	2.50
Up to 4 hours	4.00
Up to 5 hours	5.50
Over 5 hours	8.00
Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm	1.00

Bell Street Car Park

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Up to 1 hour	0.70
Up to 2 hours	1.20
Up to 3 hours	2.50
Up to 4 hours	4.00
Up to 5 hours	5.50
Over 5 hours	8.00

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm 1.00

Temple Street Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Up to 1 hour	0.70
Up to 2 hours	1.20
Up to 3 hours	2.50
Up to 4 hours	4.00
Up to 5 hours	5.50
Over 5 hours	8.00

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm 1.00

Tempest Street Car Park

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Up to 1 hour	0.70
Up to 2 hours	1.20
Up to 3 hours	2.50
Up to 4 hours	4.00
Over 4 hours	4.50

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm 1.00

Whitmore Street Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Up to 1 hour	0.70
Up to 2 hours	1.20
Up to 3 hours	2.50
Up to 4 hours	4.00
Up to 5 hours	5.50
Over 5 hours	8.00

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm 1.00

Snow Hill Market Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Up to 1 hour	0.70
Up to 2 hours	1.20
Up to 3 hours	2.50
Up to 4 hours	4.00
Up to 5 hours	5.50
Over 5 hours	8.00

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm 1.00

St Peters Car Park

Operates 4:00am - 4:00am Monday - Sunday
Monday - Friday - Staff parking only until 6:00pm

Saturday and Sunday Day Tariff

Up to 1 hour	1.50
Up to 2 hours	2.00
Up to 3 hours	3.00
Up to 4 hours	4.50
Up to 5 hours	5.50
Up to 6 hours	8.50
Over 6 hours	10.00

Monday - Sunday - Evening Charge

Entry after 6:00pm 2.00

City of Wolverhampton Council - Long Stay Car Park Charges

Broad Street Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 5:00am - 4:00am

Up to 4 hours (up until 5:30pm)	3.00
Over 4 hours	4.50

Evening Charge - Entry after 5:30pm 2.00

Church Lane Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Per Day 2.00

Faulkland Street Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 4:00am - 4:00am

Up to 4 hours 3.00

Over 4 hours 4.50

(Multiple days in £4.50 increments)

Faulkland Street - Coach Parking

Operates Monday - Sunday

Coach parking to pick up passengers (15 Minutes) FREE

Up to 4 hours 5.00

Over 4 hours 8.00

(Multiple days in £8.00 increments)

Oxford Street Car Park (RingGo)

Operating Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Per Day 2.00

Peel Street Car Park (RingGo)

Operates Monday - Sunday 6:00am - 4:00am

Monday - Friday

Up to 4 hours (up until 5:30pm) 3.00

Over 4 hours 4.50

Saturday & Sunday per day 2.50

Clifton Street Car Park

Operates Monday - Saturday 8:00am - 5:00pm

Up to 4 hours 1.20

Over 4 hours 2.00

Free after 5pm and all day Sunday

Car Park Name	Location	Post Code	Spaces	Disabled Bays
BELL STREET	Bell Street	WV1 3PR	41	2
BIRCH STREET	Birch Street		300	0
BROAD STREET	St. Mary's Street	WV1 1JD	213	4
CIVIC CENTRE	North Street	WV1 1RD	317	14
FOLD STREET (315 + 45)	Fold Street	WV1 4LP	360	8
MARKET	Peel Street	WV3 0SW	57	4
MARKET (2) (Temp Car Park former Heantun House)	Peel Street	WV3 0SW	160	0
RAILWAY DRIVE	Fryer Street	WV1 1HT	31	4
SCHOOL STREET	School Street	WV3 ONR	184	6
SNOW HILL (MARKET)	Temple Street	WV2 4AU	39	4
ST. PETERS	Wulfruna Street	WV1 1SE	72	4
TEMPLE STREET	Temple Street	WV2 4AU	53	2
TEMPEST STREET	Tempest Street	WV2 1AA	20	0
WHITMORE STREET	Whitmore Street	WV1 1JR	24	0
AVION CENTRE	Bargate Drive	WV60QW	33	1
CHURCH LANE	Church Lane	WV2 4BT	122	0
CLIFTON STREET	Clifton Street, Chapel Ash	WV3 0QT	82	2
FAULKLAND STREET	Faulkland Crescent	WV1 1JN	178	4
MOLINEUX (Employees Only)	Whitmore Hill	WV1 4QR	115	2
OXFORD STREET	Oxford Street	WV1 3SD	93	5
PEEL STREET	Peel Street	WV1 1SW	137	0
SCIENCE PARK	Showel Road, Bushbury	WV10 9RU	144	11
SCHOOL ROAD	School Road, T'hall wood	WV6 8NF	38	3
TETTENHALL HIGH ST.	High Street, Tettenhall	WV6 8QT	88	3
TETTENHALL HIGH ST. REAR	Upper Street, Tettenhall	WV6 8QG	32	2
TETTENHALL POOL	Stockwell Road, Tettenhall	WV6 9AX	69	4
ALFRED SQUIRE ROAD	Alfred Squire Road, Wednesfield	WV11 1XU	78	11
W/HOUSE FOLD/ MARKET	Woodhouse Fold, Wednesfield	WV11 1XU	138	6
WELL LANE	Well Lane, Wednesfield	WV11 1TB	27	1
CANNOCK ROAD	Prosser Street, Park Village	WV10 9AS	70	0
BATCHCROFT	Batchcroft, Bilston	WV14 0BJ	176	10
BOW STREET	Bow Street, Bilston	WV14 0AG	44	0
HALL STREET	Hall Street, Bilston	WV14 0AB	34	4
HIGHFIELD ROAD	Wright Street, Bilston	WV148PZ	12	1
MOUNTFORD LANE	Mountford Lane, Bilston	WV14 6AA	75	3
OXFORD STREET	Railway Street, Bilston	WV14 7HZ	38	1
PINFOLD STREET	Pinfold Street, Bilston	WV14 0DN	212	18
PIPES MEADOW	Pipes Meadow, Bilston	WV14 0AB	19	0
SHORT STREET	Short Street, Bilston	WV14 6AG	11	0
WALSALL STREET	Walsall Street, Bilston	WV14 6AA	52	2
CORSER STREET	Corser Street, Horsley Fileds	WV1 3EE	68	5
OLD HEATH CRESENT	Old Heath Crescent, East Park	WV1 2HP	15	1
PLASCOM ROAD	Plascom Road, East Park	WV1 2HT	70	6
ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH	Church Hill, Penn	WV4 5JD	22	2