

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 002955  
Date            12 November 2018

### *Street Lighting*

#### **Request:**

I am contacting you to request information regarding the street lighting in Wolverhampton.

Please find my specific questions below:

- 1) How many street lights does your organisation take charge over?  
[30,042](#)
- 2) How many maintenance requests have you received regarding street lighting since January 2018?  
[1,726](#)
- 3) How many maintenance requests did you receive regarding street lighting in the years 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2008?  
[In response to question 3 regarding the years 2008 - 2015, Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at:](#)
  - [Section 1\(1\) \(a\) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held.](#)
  - [The second duty at Section 1\(1\)\(b\) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held.](#)

[In respect of question 3, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information as we only started to record this information from March 2016.](#)

[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".](#)

Therefore, please see below the information we can provide for years 2016 and 2017.

2016 – 1,265  
2017 – 1,993

- 4) If possible, please provide me with the months in which these requests were made. For example: "in 2017, 10 requests were made in January etc"  
Please see our response to question 3 above.

Therefore, please see information provided we can provide for years 2016 and 2017.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	296	193	194	99	88	125	111	143	155	206	196	187
2016	N/A	N/A	24	106	81	90	124	163	155	137	216	169

- 5) How long is the average waiting period between when maintenance requests are made and engineers are able to fix the problem?  
The average time taken to carry out a routine repair which is within the control of the Council is 0.5 of a day.

- 6) How much council tax is allocated to be spent on the maintenance of street lights currently?  
In response to questions 6 to 9, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information as we do not analyse our spend in the format requested. To explain further the Council's funding comes from various sources including: Government grants, non-Government grants, fees and charges, business rates and council tax. Council tax income is accounted for at a council wide total and not disaggregated to individual service level. It is therefore not possible to provide the level of detail requested.

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".

- 7) How much council tax was allocated to be spent on the maintenance of street lights in the years 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2008.  
Please see our response to question 6 on page 2.

- 8) How much do you estimate individuals are paying towards the upkeep of street lighting as of October 2018?

Please see our response to question 6 on page 2.

- 9) How much do you estimate individuals paid towards the upkeep of street lighting in 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2008?

Please see our response to question 6 on page 2.

- 10) At what time are the street lights under your remit turned on and off?

The street lighting is, generally, controlled by a photo electric cell. The cell operates according to the ambient lighting level so there are no definitive time the lights operate. Generally the lights operate dusk to dawn.

- 11) How much does street lighting, if maintenance is not needed, cost to run over the course of one year?

The energy costs for street lighting for the financial year 2017/18 was £1,655,371

- 12) How much did the street lighting in your district/ area cost to run in 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2008.

For the following financial years, the cost of maintenance and energy costs for street lighting was:

2008-2009	£1,612,244
2009-2010	£1,977,736
2010-2011	£1,844,256
2011-2012	£2,083,900
2012-2013	£2,101,701
2013-2014	£1,979,338
2014-2015	£1,936,062
2015-2016	£2,025,059
2016-2017	£2,483,434
2017-2018	£2,282,798