



## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 021642  
Date            DD Month 2016

### ***WMPF – Early Retirement***

**Request:**

As the early retirement forms give members ages in groups as example 55-60 years would it be possible for you to send me the age groups of those awards of early retirement made by Birmingham City Council since 2012?

This request for information is in the interest of transparency and accountability of the early retirement awards made by Birmingham City Council rather than the personal details of the recipients.

In response to your request, we have established that we do not hold the above information as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on. Thus we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("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..."

To undertake this work would exceed the statutory cost limit under Section 12 of the Act.

Section 12 of the Act 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 Act.

In summary, we cannot easily gather this information via a report as it is not held centrally. In order to determine the information you have requested, we would need to locate the information, manually interrogate each file and then extract the information from our systems. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

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.