



REQUEST	LITTERING	RESPONSE
	<p>Please could you provide the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The number of reports of cigarette butt waste from 1st January 2023 to 12th December 2024.2. The number of reports of vape waste from 1st January 2023 to 12th December 2024.3. The number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued by your council in 2023 and 2024 for the littering of cigarette butts.4. The number of FPNs for littering cigarette butts that were not paid within the allocated time frame and subsequently went to court in 2023 and 2024. <p>Please provide the information in an Excel spreadsheet</p>	<p>For questions 1 and 2, we do not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations.</p> <p>The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/3244) set out the rules in relation to the cost limit (otherwise called the “appropriate limit”). These Regulations are published by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) and are viewable on their web site from this link: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf</p> <p>The Regulations set out the cost limit for Government departments and for other public authorities. For local government, Regulation 3 states that the cost limit is £450 and Regulation 4(4) states that the prescribed hourly rate is £25. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA. I am satisfied the cost limit applies to your request and explain why below.</p> <p>There have been 2323 requests for street/highway cleansing for littering between the dates requested. Most of the report summaries say rubbish, waste or mess, but without going into each job and checking for photos or officer comments, it would be impossible to differentiate any further. Even if it took 30 seconds per case (and most would take longer) this would exceed 18 hours.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. 7 (see attached spreadsheet)4. Two, 1 resulted in £220 fine plus costs; 1 was withdrawn due to offender passing away prior to the court date