

Request

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information pertaining to properties for which the Council holds the leasehold. Specifically, I seek the following data:

- 1. Total number of homes: The total number of residential properties for which the Council holds the leasehold from 2016 to the present
- 2. Revenue from Leaseholds: A breakdown of the annual revenue received from these leaseholds, year by year, from 2016 to the current year

Response

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.

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: <u>http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf</u>

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 will explain why this is the case.

Looking at the data for 23-24, to look at around half of the year has already taken around 2 hours. If it takes around 4 hours per year. $4 \times 8 = 32$ hours. This is only for Q2 and it cannot be confirmed that this will capture every interest.

Would you be satisfied with an estimate of the number of residential leases and estimate of the income?