



Request

I am making a Freedom of Information request for the following data if you please. This information is for Leigh, and all the wards which either have Leigh in the name or are a part of Leigh.

The data I want is:

Election results, for all candidates
Spoiled Ballet count
Voter turnout

I would like all this information separated BY WARD, as that data is difficult to obtain online.

I would like this data for several elections please. The following will suffice:

General Elections:- 2024, 2019, 2017, 2015 and 2010

Local Elections:- All elections to appoint councillors since 2010.

Response

With reference to your request for information, I would like to draw your attention to the distinction between the roles of the local authority and those of the Returning Officer for local elections.

The role of the Returning Officer is separate from that of the Chief Executive of the local authority and the responsibilities and duties associated with the former roles are personal to the postholder. A list of public bodies and local authorities that are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act is available at the following website:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/schedule/1>

As you will see, the Freedom of Information Act does not list any person appointed under the Representation of the People Act 1983 (or related electoral legislation). It therefore follows that the (Acting) Returning Officer or any other person appointed under the 1983 Act (or related electoral legislation) such as the Counting Officer, are not subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

Therefore, as there is no statutory obligation to provide you with this information, I am on this occasion unable to supply any answers to your questions.