



Information Governance

C West
Executive Director
Council House
Earl Street
Coventry
CV1 5RR

10 September 2015

Please contact Information Governance
Direct line 024 7683 3323
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ00341

Thank you for your request for information relating to –

In each of the last 5 calendar years and in the year to date (reporting each year separately):

- a) How many complaints has the Council received in respect of properties where one potential response to the complaint would be the issue of a section 215 notice or the issue of a warning letter prior to the issue of a section 215 notice
- b) How many warning letters were the Council minded to issue
- c) How many warning letters were issued
- d) How many section 215 notices has the Council issued
- e) Of those section 215 notices issued, how many have been appealed
- f) What is the current status of the section 215 notices issued (resolved/outstanding/appealed/ etc)
- g) What is the Councils budget in respect of section 215 notices for each year and what was the expenditure actually incurred for each year
- h) How many days of officer's time has been taken up considering and dealing with section 215 notices and consideration of matters where a section 215 notice may be an appropriate response
- i) Was the issue of section 215 notices subject to the Scheme of Delegation for each of those years, and if so, to whom was the power to issue section 215 notices delegated
- j) Has the Council at any time in committee or sub-committee debated or considered its policy on section 215 notices and could you provide copies of any minutes where a section 215 notice is mentioned

Please provide a copy of the Council's currently agreed policy on section 215 notices and the date and copies of the minutes of the meeting where this policy was adopted.

Please provide a copy of the Planning Enforcement register for each of the last five calendar years and the year to date.

We have estimated that it will cost more than the 'appropriate limit' to consider your request.

Section 12 of the Act allows public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for a local authority is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2.5 working days in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

However, if you pay the fee as set out in this notice, your request will be processed. The estimated cost of processing your request is £3,750 in order for: it would take approximately 150 hours for an officer to review 414 files at 20 minutes per file. This charge has been calculated in accordance with Section 13 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Freedom of Information Fees Regulations.

Payment can be made via the Council web site. To do this, go to [Pay Online](#), select from the Account Group drop down menu Council & Democracy and Request for Information from the Account Type (it may take a moment for this option to appear). Please put your request reference number in the 'Account' box.

If you wish us to continue to process your request you should pay the fee within 3 calendar months by 9 September 2015. If we do not receive payment of the fee by this date, I will take it that you do not wish to pursue this request and will consider the request closed.

Alternatively it may be possible that you could narrow down the scope of your request, for example, by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or periods of time relevant to the information required. **Please note** though that any reformulated request will be treated as a fresh request.

Alternatively, you may want to look at the information we already publish to see if what you are looking for is already available via the Council's FOI/EIR [Disclosure Log](#); [Publication Scheme](#); [Facts about Coventry](#) or [Open Data](#).

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk.

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe

House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email: casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Business Support Officer
Place Directorate