

Information Governance Coventry City Council PO Box 15 Council House Coventry CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

18 March 2020

Please contact Information Governance Direct line 024 7697 5408 infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Dear Sir

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: REQ06902

Thank you for your request for information relating to PFI contracts relating to incinerators

Your request and our responses are outlined below:

My request for information concerns the use of incinerators to dispose of waste, and the contracts relating to the use of these incinerators. I am specifically interested in any contracts relating to the use of incinerators that operate under the "private-finance initiative" ("PFI") procurement model. When I refer to "waste" over the course of this email (and in subsequent correspondence), this should be understood in the framework of the definitions laid out in the EU's Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC

1. I am interested in any PFI contracts you may have signed that would result in some degree of waste being disposed of through incinerators. Please could you send me a copy any contracts that meet this description that are currently binding on you as a public body. (I am not interested in any historical contracts that have since expired.)

We can advise that the use of the incinerator does not operate under a "private-finance initiative" ("PFI") procurement model.

- 2. Regarding any contracts that fall under the description outlined in point 1: please could you tell me when that contract was signed.
- 3. Regarding any contracts that fall under the description outlined in point 1: please could you tell me when it expires.

In response, to Q2/3, this is not applicable, please refer to Q1 response.

4. I am interested if there are any kinds of recyclable waste that are not being recycled, as a result of contractual restrictions upon you as a public body.

Regarding any contracts that fall under the description outlined in point 1: please could you detail if any of these contracts have led to the situation outlined here, and detail what the restrictions are in the contract that have led to this situation. If this situation has arisen, please could you detail exactly which kinds of materials you are able to recycle and which kinds of materials you are prohibited from recycling.

- 5. Regarding any contracts that fall under the description outlined in point 1: I am interested in difficulties you would face as a public body were you to attempt to escape the terms of these contracts:
- a. Please could you send me a brief description of the consequences (legal or financial) to you as a public body if you were to attempt to terminate and/or renegotiate the contract prior to its previously agreed expiration date.
- b. Please could you send me a copy of any legal texts that relate to point 5a) above.
- 6. Regarding any contracts that fall under the description outlined in point 1, I am interested if any of these contracts specifies a certain amount of waste tonnage (and/or a certain percentage of waste tonnage) that is required to be disposed of through the use of incinerators:
- a. Please could you tell me which contracts (if any) make these specifications.
- b. If they do make these specifications, please could you outline what the specifications are.
- 7. I am interested in any internal reviews that you may have undertaken as a public body of any contracts you may hold that fall under the description outlined in point 1. Please could you send me any such reviews that may exist.
- 8. Regarding any contracts that fall under the description outlined in point 1: If you have produced any estimates regarding the environmental impact of these contracts, please could you send those to me.

In response to Q4-8, we can advise that no contracts fall under the description in Q1, and therefore not applicable for response.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further

permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the <u>Council's web site</u> and in particular its FOI/EIR <u>Disclosure log</u>, <u>Council's Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Open Data and Facts about Coventry</u>.

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

Information Governance