

Information Governance Team

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02 March 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI483137894

Thank you for your request for information relating to voter impersonation in December 2019 election.

You have requested the following information:

Please provide the number of suspected or claimed voter impersonation occurred in each Coventry parliamentary constituency at polling stations. Please include claimed cases where someone was turned away as some one had already voted using that name and cases where polling station staff reported suspicions.

I am not interested in any details about case or broken-down except for which constituency they were alleged to take place.

Whilst that there is no statutory obligation to provide this information, to be of assistance, detailed below is your question and as much of the information which is available in response to your question.

We can confirm that elections and registration of electors is governed by the Representation of the People Act 1983 (The Act) as amended and Coventry City Council must appoint an officer of the council to be the Returning Officer (RO) and the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) which is Julie Newman, Chief Legal Officer of the Council. Although appointed by the Council, the RO and ERO does not carry out the duties or responsibilities of the post on behalf of the Council but in their own appointed capacity. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI) does not list any appointed person under the Representation of People Act.

We would advise that no cases of personation were reported to West Midlands Police following the Parliamentary Elections in 2019. The Returning Officer does not hold any other records.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR 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.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication</u> <u>Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

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: <u>infogov@coventry.gov.uk</u>

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 <u>icocasework@ico.org.uk</u>.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance