



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI712001559

Thank you for your request for information relating to Budget Accountability Framework.

You have requested the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information regarding your council's approach to financial accountability, budget management, and the escalation of non-compliance:

1. Does your council have a Budget Accountability Framework, Budget Escalation Framework, or any other policy, protocol, or document which sets out the expectations of budget holders and the procedures for addressing non-compliance?

If yes, please answer Questions 2 to 4 only.

If no, please answer Questions 3 to 8 only.

2. In relation to Q1, please provide a copy of the document(s), or a link to where they can be accessed.

3. Does the council provide training or guidance to budget holders on their financial responsibilities and/or escalation procedures?

4. In relation to Q3, please provide a copy of the relevant training material, policy, or guidance documents.

5. What procedures are in place if a budget holder or service area is forecasting or reporting an overspend?

6. Are there defined thresholds (e.g. percentage variance, monetary value) that trigger escalation?

7. Once escalation is triggered via a defined threshold or otherwise, what actions follow (e.g. reporting to senior leadership, finance team involvement, development of a recovery plan)?

8. Are such escalations reported to any council committees (e.g. Cabinet, Audit Committee, Scrutiny Committee)?

In response to your requested, we advise the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following link:

See <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/constitution>

The information can be found on Part 3, Rules of Procedure (mainly sections 3C and 3F). The Council also ensures officers are supported on these processes where needed.

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: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) 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: 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 icocasework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance