

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 003504
Date 24 April 2019

Public Registers and Registers Held as Public Records

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request information on public registers and registers held as public records regarding Wolverhampton City Council.

In particular, any records you hold for land held in trust for use by the public. Also, who owns any rights or leases on the land. I'm particularly interested in the Wednesfield area.

With reference to your request for information, this has now been considered and the City of Wolverhampton Council is not obliged to supply the information you requested for the reasons set out below.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires City of Wolverhampton Council, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you, the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies:

In relation to your particular request, the following exemption applies:

Section 21 – Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means

We can confirm that the department holds information that you have asked for in relation to the above. However, the information is exempt under section 21 of the FOI Act because in relation to leases/licences/rights and covenants - any land in question, if registered, will be obtainable from the Land Registry (please see link provided below). Also please note that a licence can be verbal, written or implied all of which are enforceable.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/land-registry>

Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act exempts disclosure of information that is reasonably accessible by other means, and the terms of the exemption mean

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

You can find out more about Section 21 by reading the extract from the Act, available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/21>