

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

## Response to Request for Information

Reference EIR 000183  
Date 19 October 2017 2015

### *Planning Applications*

**Request:**

Please provide a list (in Excel format) of all planning applications submitted on or after 1st October

2013 where no decision was made within 26 weeks (unless a longer period has been agreed in writing between the applicant and the local planning authority) and NO refund of fees has been made to date. The information should be provided in the following format/columns.

- Col 1: Planning Application Number
- Col 2: Applicant Name
- Col 3: Planning Application Date
- Col 4: Planning Application Fee Paid / £
- Col 5: Decision Due By Date
- Col 6: Decision Date Actual
- Col 7: Extension Agreed (if appropriate) - Yes or No?

Could you also inform me if your council publishes extension of time agreements on the planning portal.

Following careful consideration, the Council regrets to inform you that it has decided not to disclose this information.

Information you have requested has been withheld from disclosure. The exemption engaged is Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

Section 12 of the FOI exempts Public Authorities from providing information where the estimated cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. Any estimate must be undertaken in accordance with the limits set in fees regulations made under Section 12 (5) of the FOI.

These Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244 Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations) allow for a refusal where the cost of compliance, for local authorities such as the Council, would exceed £450. As a guide, staff time to identify and extract this information is charged at a rate of £25 per hour.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

In summary to provide the information you have requested it would take us at least three days (21 hours) to compile as this information is not held centrally and therefore we would have to carry out a trawl (to produce the detailed analysis you require) through thousands of planning applications.

In estimating the cost of complying with a request for information, an authority can only take into account any reasonable costs incurred in:

*“(a) determining whether it holds the information,*

*(b) locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,*

*(c) retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information,  
and*

*(d) extracting the information from a document containing it”.*