

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 002731
Date 5 September 2018

Use of RIPA

Request:

I am writing to enquire on the use of the Ripa law by Wolverhampton City Council.
Specifically:

- 1) How many times has RIPA powers been used in the last 5 years?
[Three applications for directed surveillance authorisation have been applied for at Magistrates Court and granted in the last 5 years](#)

On what dates were the requests made and by whom?

[12/02/2014 – Trading Standards](#)

[11/04/2014 – Public Protection](#)

[24/03/2015 – Trading Standards](#)

- 2) For what purposes was RIPA used, what type of investigation was being undertaken?

[Underage sales exercise](#)

[Investigation into an alleged illegal waste transfer station](#)

[Underage sales exercise](#)

What was the motivation for using RIPA?

[To lawfully conduct directed surveillance and obtain evidence of criminal offences.](#)

What were the outcomes of the RIPA requests? Please provide full details for the past 5 years.

[7 premises visited – no sales](#)

[Surveillance cancelled due to change in circumstances](#)

[9 premises visited – three underage sales](#)

- 3) Over the past 5 years, by each year, how many people have been prosecuted as a result of evidence gathered through the use of RIPA sanctioned investigations, and how many of these prosecutions have led to convictions?
[2016 - Two people prosecuted, resulting in two convictions.](#)