



Information Governance
Coventry City Council
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Council House
Coventry
CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

21 November 2019

Please contact Information Governance
Direct line 024 7697 5408
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Dear Madam,

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ06349**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Council Owned Artworks.

Your request and our responses are outlined below:

1. Does Coventry City Council have an inventory of the art work that it owns? If so please provide it.

We can confirm that there are 6500 pieces of art work in the Council collection. There is an inventory, but the Council will not be disclosing this information. It believes that disclosure of this information to the wider world, would raise law enforcement concerns and therefore, Section 31 FOIA is engaged.

In considering the public interest for and against disclosure in this case, the Council has considered the public interest in disclosing the up to date figure of the value of any and all works of art owned by Coventry City Council in terms of the contribution to demonstrating transparency. In this instance, the Council judges that the public interest in disclosure is outweighed by the public interest in allowing the Council to ensure that its legitimate business and that of others is protected from criminal activity.

2. What is the combined value of these pieces?

We can advise that the combined value of these pieces is £17,500,000

3. Where are they located/stored?

The Council collection is stored at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum / Coventry Council House

4. What is the annual cost of storing these pieces?

We can confirm that we do not hold this information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act.

This is because the cost of storage cannot be broken down as the building where the collection is stored, is an operational and working museum and such specific costs do not apply.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information 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.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its FOI/EIR [Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

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 casework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance