



**Information Governance Team**

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06 September 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI542969263**

Thank you for your request for information relating to number of works of art owned by the Council.

You have requested the following information:

**1. The total number of works of art owned by your local authority.**

6,692.

**2. The estimated total value.**

Your request for information has been considered. Coventry City 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 Coventry City 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 this part of your request, the Council believes the following exemption applies, Section 31 – Law Enforcement.

We can confirm that the Council holds information falling within the description specified in your request. However, Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows a public authority to refuse a request if disclosure of this information would prejudice law enforcement as defined under Freedom of Information Act, Section 31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement.

We believe that releasing detailed information such as the estimated value of the artworks creates a security risk and is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

The Council will not be disclosing the information as it believes that disclosure of this information to the wider world, it would raise law enforcement concerns. Releasing detailed information such as the estimated value of the artworks creates a security risk and is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

In considering the public interest for and against disclosure in this case, the Council has considered the public interest in disclosing this information for artworks in terms of the contribution to demonstrating transparency and 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 are protected from criminal activity.

### **3. The number of works currently on display.**

264. Most artworks not on display can be viewed online, and periodically will enter display as part of a changing exhibitions programme.

### **4. How many works of art have been donated by the local authority over the past five years?**

Nil.

### **5. How many works of art have been leased by the local authority over the past five years and the total revenue.**

17 artworks are currently on loan to other institutions.

### **6. How many works of art have been sold by the local authority over the past five years and the total proceeds from any sales.**

Nil.

### **7. The cost to the local authority of maintaining your art collection for the financial year 2022/23. Please include any costs for security, conservation.**

For Question 7, we confirm that we do not hold this information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. This information is held by Culture Coventry.

Should you wish to contact Culture Coventry, contact information can be found using the following link:

<https://www.transport-museum.com/contact.aspx>

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](mailto: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](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

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

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**