



**Information Governance Team**

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Dear Sir/Madam

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

**Request ID: FOI550216344**

Thank you for your request for information relating to book challenges.

You have requested the following information:

**As a freedom of information request, please provide data regarding the number of challenges to books received by your library/libraries for each calendar between 2018 and 2022, plus so far in 2023. For this request, a book challenge is defined as a formal complaint requesting that materials be removed from a library because of content or inappropriateness. Specifically, please provide each of the following for each year if available:**

**a. The number of challenges received**

2022: One

2023: One

**b. The title and author of the books challenged**

Five Weeks in a Balloon - Jules Verne

Backstairs Billy - Tom Quinn

**c. The reason (if any) provided for the challenge**

Five Weeks in a Balloon - Racist Language.

Backstairs Billy - Sexually Explicit Content.

**d. The action taken in response to the challenge**

Five Weeks in a Balloon - Book was moved to a different Library as per complaint request.

Backstairs Billy - None.

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**