



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI559307302

Thank you for your request for information relating to DBS Checks on Elected Members.

You have requested the following information:

Given the sheer number of Local Authorities that perform DBS checks on Elected Members, can you please confirm:

a. Does the Council undertake DBS checks on Elected Members. If so, when did this commence?

No.

b. If the Council does not undertake said DBS checks, how does the Council monitor / audit what Elected Members have done prior to election, or during their elected tenure? The Elected Members are the actual Coventry City Council, of course. More so than unelected officers.

Certain people are disqualified from standing for election and all candidates are required to confirm that they are not disqualified as part of the nomination process. Disqualifications include having been sentenced to a term of imprisonment of three months or more (including a suspended sentence), without the option of a fine, during the five years before polling day. Once elected all councillors are bound by a Code of Conduct which sets out the standards required of them including that they will act with integrity and honesty and act lawfully.

c. If the Council does carry out DBS checks on Elected Members, how many Elected Members' checks have returned adverse findings, during the period the Council has been undertaking said checks? If the period of checks is greater than 5 years please only provide the last 5 years. Given the limited number of Elected Members, this is not an onerous, burdensome check.

d. If said checks are undertaken, what is the Council Policy for any DBS checks which return adverse / criminal findings?

For Questions c and d, these are not applicable.

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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

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.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance