



**Information Governance Team**

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15 January 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

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

**Request ID: FOI569017342**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Use of Scrutiny, Call in and Audit.

You have requested the following information:

- 1. For the past ten years, please confirm how many decisions taken by the council's cabinet/executive were available for call-in.**
- 2. Please provide a table showing a breakdown of the following for each year since 2013. For each year, please state how many call-ins there were. For each call-in please show which committee called them in, what the response was, the topic and provide a link to the relevant committee where the call was discussed.**

In response to Questions 1 and 2, we confirm there were two call-ins during this period.

With regards to the remaining requested information, please note this falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following links:

<https://edemocracy.coventry.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13206>

<https://edemocracy.coventry.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=151&MId=10387&Ver=4>

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

**3. If your local authority has an overview and scrutiny committee system, please confirm how many committees (excluding audit) are part of that system?**

In response to Question 3, we confirm the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as information about the Council's current Scrutiny Boards is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/meetings-1/scrutiny>

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

**4. Policy on Selection & Appointment of Committee Chairs: Please provide the council's current policy on selection and appointment of scrutiny committee chairs and audit committee chairs. Please either copy and paste the section of council policy relating to the selection of scrutiny and audit committee chairs or provide a link and details of the section/sub-section within the document where we can locate this information.**

We confirm that appointments to Council Committees are a function of the Council and are made at the Annual meeting. To assist further, please refer to Part 3A paragraph 1.2 of the Constitution by using the below link:

<https://edemocracy.coventry.gov.uk/documents/s59069/Part%203%20-%20Procedure%20Rules%20June%202023.pdf>

**5. Current Political Configuration of Committee Chairs/Conveners: Please provide a figure showing what percentage of current scrutiny and audit committee chairs (or conveners) are members of an opposition party to the main controlling party or controlling coalition.**

The Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees and the Audit and Procurement Committee are all members of the controlling group.

**6. We realise that the committee with audit related responsibilities are not always called 'Audit Committee'. Please can you confirm what the title of this committee is within your local authority and answer the following questions in relation to that committee.**

We confirm the title of this committee is called the "Audit and Procurement Committee."

**7. Internal Annual Review of Audit Committee: For each of the last five financial years please provide me with a copy of the audit committee's annual review of its work. Please state the date the review was published and how it was made public at the time.**

**8. External Review of Audit Committee: Please confirm the most recent date that an external review of the audit committee was sought, who undertook that review, when and where it was published and provide a copy of the review.**

In response to Questions 7 and 8, we confirm we do not hold this information and are informing you

as per Section 1(1) of the Act. We have not undertaken an annual external nor internal review in the last five financial years, although we do produce an annual report of our work on this. To advise further, a review of the CIPFA guidance is being undertaken in 2024-25 which will incorporate considering requirements for a review.

The supply of information in response to a FOI 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**