



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI601698542

Thank you for your request for information relating to working from home costs.

You have requested the following information:

- 1. How many cumulative working days did council staff spend working from home in 2022-23?**
- 2. How much the council spent on work from home related costs for council workers (i.e. home desktop screens/office chairs etc) in 2022-23?**

Under Section 14(1) of the Act, the Council has a right to refuse a request if it is judged to be vexatious. The Council has therefore chosen not to release the requested information to the fact that it has applied s14 (vexatious requests), as per the below.

Refusal Notice – Section 14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000

The right of access to information is not without exception and is subject to a number of exemptions and other provisions under the Act, including s14(1) of the FOIA which provides:

“14. Vexatious and repeated requests

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the request is vexatious.”

We believe that your recent FOI request has been submitted using a pseudonym. You may be aware that the Information Commissioner's guidance states that for a request to be valid, the requester must provide enough of their real name to give anyone reading that request a reasonable indication of their identity. It goes on to say that if the requester has used a pseudonym then their request will be invalid.

As a result, we are writing to inform you that from this point, the City Council does not intend to respond to your request until further information is received. Should you wish your request to be dealt with, we ask that you provide us with the appropriate evidence confirming your identity (e.g. driver's licence or passport).

Although you may be disappointed by this approach, we would stress that such protection exists within the legislation in order to ensure that applicants use their rights to seek information responsibly and public authorities are not overwhelmed by over burdensome requests.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have a right to approach the Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether we have dealt with your request for information in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

If we do not receive a response within two months, we will treat this request as closed.

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