



Information Governance Team

Postal Address:
Coventry City Council
PO Box 7097
Coventry
CV6 9SL

www.coventry.gov.uk

E-mail: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Phone: 024 7697 5408

29 November 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI660391241**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Council Christmas spend.

You have requested the following information:

1) The council's total expenditure for Christmas decorations and events for every year from 2016 – 2023

Please note the total expenditures for the years 2016 to 2020 were purely for Christmas decorations within the city centre. These figures also exclude monies or decorations funded by external organisations such as Coventry City of Culture Trust and Coventry BID. Please see the figures below:

2016 - £54,612

2017 - £63,170

2018 - £54,359

2019 - £44,534

2020 - £65,909

2021 - £243,822 (please note the total costs for this year included purchase of new decorations for both existing and new urban areas, and was used for other festivities such as Eid and Diwali. We also invested in new decorations within the city centre and expanded our offering, which also

included the upgrade of aging infrastructure.

2022 - £235,000

2023 - £7000 was spent on the civic Christmas tree for the city centre, and a total of £151,262.55 was spent on festive lights

2) How much the council budgeted for Christmas decorations and events for every year from 2016 – 2023

In response to Question 2, we confirm we do not hold this information and are informing you under Section 1(1) of the Act. Our budgets for Christmas decorations and events from 2016 to 2023 is a part of the total expenditure from the central cost centre, and therefore cannot be broken down into separate budgets for each year.

3) How much the council has budgeted for Christmas decorations and events for 2024

We confirm we had budgeted up to a total sum of £205,000 for Christmas decorations and events for 2024.

4) The councils 2024 Christmas budget broken down by category (Lights, Trees, events)

For 2024, a total sum of £150,000 is our budget for the festive lights and tree, and £55,000 is our budget for Christmas events.

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

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