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Mr. Paul Brodie

'request-12055-c276f55c@whatdotheyknow.com'

My Ref AW/MM
Your Ref

Date 11 August 2009

Dear Mr. Brodie

**Subject Freedom of Information Act 2000
Request for internal review of the council's handling of your
request re: Crime statistics in the vicinity of Encombe Place**

I refer to your request for an internal review dated 23rd July 2009, in respect of the council's handling of your request dated 15th May 2009, namely;

- a) All Crime Statistics (Serious and Acquisitive included) in the vicinity (0.5 mile radius) of Encombe Place, Salford - for Oct-Dec 2008 and Jan-Mar 2009
- b) Any evidence which links crime in the vicinity (0.5 mile radius) of Encombe Place with the users of the Youth Offending Service located there - during the past 12 months

I have now fully reconsidered the council's handling of your request and am able to confirm the following:

The Freedom of Information Act 2000(The Act), requires that a public authority must inform an applicant in writing whether it holds the information requested and if so, communicate that information to the applicant, promptly, but not later than 20 working days after receipt of the request; in accordance with section 10(1). Accordingly the council should have responded to your request by 15th June 2009 (taking into account that 25th May bank holiday, is not a working day for purposes of The Act.)

I have carried out a full investigation in respect of the delay and can confirm that it was as a result of consultation with a third party, who had a significant interest in the information. Because of the nature of the information concerned, the council needed to be satisfied that the information was suitable for disclosure into the public domain and that such disclosure would not prejudice crime prevention in the area.

Following considerable deliberation and consultation, the council decided that the information was suitable for disclosure as no significant prejudice to crime prevention was identified.

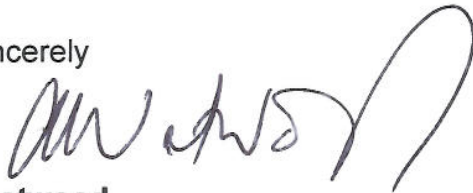
Information in relation to your request was disclosed on the 17th July 2009, which was the 44th working day following receipt. Regrettably, the council did not fulfil its responsibilities under Section 10(1) of The Act, as the response was 24 working days late.

The council understands and takes seriously its obligations under The Act and will continue to look at its processes, in order to meet those obligations. I am sure you would agree having received the requested information, that it would not have served the council to purposely delay disclosure.

Please accept my apologies in respect of the delay and be assured that we are looking at ways to meet with the increasing numbers of requests made under The Act.

I trust this explains the reason for the delay however, as the review has concluded should you remain dissatisfied, you may take the matter up with the Information Commissioner's Office as previously advised.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Westwood', written in a cursive style.

Alan Westwood
Strategic Director
Customer & Support Services