



Margaret Campbell
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My Ref: PK/pk/FOI Request - Allotments

Contact: Peter Kerrigan

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16 June 2008

Dear Ms Campbell

Re Freedom of Information: Your Request for Information

I refer to your e mail of 21 December 2008 asking for the following information under the Freedom of Information Act;

1. Q How many allotment sites are there in the Council area for which the council has access to waiting list data?

- There are eight allotment sites within Worthing Borough, owned by the Council.
- Chesswood Farm (CWF)
- Dominion Road (DOM)
- George V Avenue (GAA)
- Haynes Road (HAY)
- Hillbarn Lane (HBA)
- Humber Avenue (HUM)
- St Andrew's Road (STA)
- West Tarring (WTA)

2. Q How many plots are on these sites?

There are the following numbers of plots at the sites (site abbreviations used hereafter). Please note that the numbers in brackets are the numbers of currently unlettable plots. These are unlettable for a variety of reasons, and are being dealt with with a view to returning them to productive use whenever possible. For example at WTA a plot beneath a pylon is being held back as the pylon is due to being dismantled this month; a plot at GAA has a smell from the drain beneath which Southern Water are investigating. Some are prone to flooding, or have been invaded by Japanese knotweed.

- CWF - 356 (10)
- DOM - 46 (4)
- GAA - 22 (2)
- HAY - 21 (1)

- HBA - 22
- HUM - 100
- STA - 19
- WTA - 453 (8)

3. Q How many people are on these waiting lists for an allotment?

These are the numbers of people on the waiting lists for each site. However, there are a lot of people who put their names on the waiting list for more than one site, and will take a plot on whichever site they are offered, and then will be removed from all the waiting lists.

- CWF - 99
- DOM - 44
- GAA - 82
- HAY - 67
- HBA - 56
- HUM - 39
- STA - 55
- WTA - 154

4. Q Are any of these waiting lists closed to further applications?

No, none of the waiting lists are closed. They were closed for a while, as it was becoming so unlikely for people to be offered a plot within a reasonable timescale. But then we realised that with the waiting lists closed we had no idea of the current demand, so we re-opened them. We do let any new applicant know though, that they will be in for a very long wait.

5. Q How many sites are there in total in the council area?

Worthing Borough Council own the eight sites above. I believe that Worthing Homes Ltd (a local Social Housing provider) used to run a site, but I am not aware of whether they still do. I have no knowledge of any other sites, although there may well be private arrangements in place somewhere.

If you are unhappy with the way that this request has been resolved, then you may ask for an internal review of this decision by writing to Jeremy Cook at the above address. He will then arrange for the case to be reviewed.

You may also make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at Whycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. However please note that he would normally expect that any internal review procedures have been exhausted prior to contacting him.

Yours sincerely

Peter Kerrigan
Administration & Technical Manager