

Sandra J Stewart
Borough Solicitor
Council Offices, Wellington Road
Ashton-under-Lyne, Tameside. OL6 6DL

**By e-mail: Paul Cardin [request-57297-
a5ceb39e@whatdotheyknow.com]**

www.tameside.gov.uk
e-mail : Sandra.stewart@tameside.gov.uk

Call Centre 0161-342 8355
Fax 0161 342 2747

Ask for Sandra Stewart
Direct Line 0161 342 3028
Date 1 April 2011

Dear Mr Cardin

Re: YOUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information dated the 8 January 2011 which was received by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council on the 19 March 2011.

I understand this request to be as follows:

"Please supply Annual totals for the following:

As far as records go back, the annual figures for the total of current employees / ex-employees (including teaching staff) of the Council who have signed compromise agreements directly related to the resolving of dispute(s) / grievance(s) / internal and external investigation(s) / whistleblowing incident(s).

In addition to this, annual figures for the number of current employees / ex-employees (including teaching staff) who have agreed, following the matter being raised and made conditional as part of a compromise agreement drawn up by the body acting as the Council's legal team, to sign and forgo their right to approach the council in the future with Freedom of Information and/or DPA Subject Access requests under the relevant Acts.

Please provide the figures in the following format e.g. 2006 - 2; 2007 - 4; 2008 - 1; 2010 - 6; etc.

Please note that I do not seek or require any personal information such as names and addresses – only the total figures for each subject area."

Your request has been considered as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In accordance with statutory requirements, it may take up to 20 working days (approximately 4 weeks) for the Council to consider your request and provide a formal response. Should this 20 working day deadline need to be extended you will be notified and kept informed.

The information relating to your request has been received from Mick Forrest, the Assistant Executive Director for People and Performance, who will be able to deal with any follow up of clarification requests by contacting him by email at mick.forrest@tameside.gov.uk

Please be advised that there is no charge for your request.

I set out below the response to your request:

Year	<i>As far as records go back, the annual figures for the total of current employees / ex-employees (including teaching staff) of the Council who have signed compromise agreements directly related to the resolving of dispute(s) / grievance(s) / internal and external investigation(s) / whistleblowing incident(s).</i>	<i>In addition to this, annual figures for the number of current employees / ex-employees (including teaching staff) who have agreed, following the matter being raised and made conditional as part of a compromise agreement drawn up by the body acting as the Council's legal team, to sign and forgo their right to approach the council in the future with Freedom of Information and/or DPA Subject Access requests under the relevant Acts.</i>
2006	13	None
2007	21	None
2008	8	None
2009	13	None
2010	11	None
2011	18	None
TOTAL	84	None

Since October 2010 around 1000 employees nearly 25% of the council's work force (excluding schools) have left the Council under severance. Whilst the majority of employees entered into a compromise agreement to terminate their employment – none of these agreements included a clause preventing a former employee making a data access request or a FoIA request.

I am sorry your experience of seeking information from Tameside Council has not been a good experience to date. Whilst the 'What do you know' website is excellent we have previously had some difficulties before in some users being blocked by our firewall and in sometime uploading information to the website.

I can confirm that I have asked IT to add your address to the acceptable list of emails to avoid it being rejected by the firewall in order that this difficulty does not arise again.

Should you have any further queries or clarification on the information please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail.

Yours sincerely



Sandra J Stewart
Borough Solicitor