**Corporate Policy Economic Development and Communications**

Civic Centre

Tannery Lane

Ashford

Kent TN23 1PL

01233 331111

www.ashford.gov.uk

 @ashfordcouncil

 AshfordBoroughCouncil

Ask For: Tom Swain

Email: tom.swain@ashford.gov.uk

Direct Line: 01233 331111

Fax No:

Mr Alex Parsons

n/a

n/a

n/a

Our Ref: FOI-6252

Your Ref:

Date: 12 July 2018

Dear Alex Parsons

Thank you for your email of 26 June 2018 requesting information about our Freedom of Information statistics.

The information you requested is enclosed.

1. What period do you record FOI statistics in? Financial Year/Calendar Year/Other?

We currently do not record FOI statistics other than to aid with the compilation of our 6 monthly FOI-Report for internal review. All FOI’s are held on a central system along with any responses sent.

1. How many FOI requests have you received? (if this figure includes EIR requests, please state)

In 2017 we received 816 requests made up of 799 FOI’s and 17 EIR’s.

1. The number of requests where the information was granted?

This information is not held

1. The number of requests where the information was entirely withheld (no information provided)?

This information is not held

1. The number of requests where the information was partially withheld (some, but not all information requested, provided)?

This information is not held

1. How many requests were completed inside the statutory deadline?

In 2017, 701

1. How many requests were appealed to internal review?

In 2017, 5

1. How many decisions were upheld at internal review?

This information is not held

1. How many FOI decisions have been appealed to the ICO?

In 2017, 0

1. How many decisions were upheld by the ICO?

N/A

1. How many vexatious requests were received?

In 2017, 0 requests were formally acknowledged as vexatious.

Although a detailed breakdown of the form of responses, eg entirely withheld, partially withheld, directed to another authority, etc. is currently not held by the council we are aware of the recent Freedom of Information Code of Practice issued by the Cabinet Office on the 4th July 18, and it guidance on publication schemes and FOI compliance statistics. These are practices we will be looking to adopt going forward.

**Yours sincerely**

**Tom Swain**

**Governance and Data Protection Officer**

**Corporate Policy Economic Development and Communications**

If you believe the Council has not complied with the Freedom of Information Act in relation to your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests must be submitted no later than 40 working days after the date on which you believe that the Council failed to comply with the legislation and must be addressed to: Freedom of Information Manager, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL or email foi@ashford.gov.uk. The Council's procedure for internal reviews can be viewed at <https://www.ashford.gov.uk/freedom-of-information>. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF; www.ico.org.uk; Tel. 0303 123 1113.

Providing the applicant with all the information requested