

## Response to Request for Information

**Reference:** 5258  
**Date:** 26 May 2015  
**Type of request** Freedom of Information request

### ***Lease of Cambridge Central Library***

1. I would like to make an FOI request with regard to the current annual lease costs for the Cambridge Central Library, and the terms and conditions of this lease.

The County Council does not pay anything in terms of annual lease costs for Cambridge Central Library. A 'peppercorn' is often used in legal contracts to demonstrate that consideration is being exchanged between the parties. The current annual lease cost for the Cambridge Central Library is a rent of one peppercorn.

The Cambridge Central Library lease, including all terms and conditions, is publicly available from the Land Registry for a fee.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/land-registry>

As such, it is exempt from release under section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

Section 21(1) provides that where information is reasonably accessible other than under the provisions of the Act, then it is exempt from release. In this instance, as described above, a copy of the lease, including full terms and conditions, is publicly available from the Land Registry upon payment of a reasonable fee.

Section 21(2)(a) states that information can still be regarded as accessible where it can only be accessed upon payment of a fee and guidance from the Information Commissioner confirms that where information is made available by other legislation that permits a charge to be made, it is to be considered to be publicly available for the purposes of section 21(1).

In this instance, section 112(2) of the Land Registry Act 1925 requires this information to be made available and prescribes that a fee is to be charged.

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