



Jessica Moore
Via email:
request-509488-97baac98@whatdotheyknow.com

12th September, 2018

Information Governance

Coventry City Council
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Please contact Information Governance
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Dear Ms. Moore,

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: REQ04662

Thank you for your request Council meetings regarding Central market / Royal Asset Management.

Your request:

Please can you provide documentary information of:

- 1. All meetings that have taken place during the past two years between council officers, elected members and representatives of the Royal London Asset Management organisation regarding the central market.**
- 2. All of the outcomes of those meetings.**
- 3. I would also like to see the copy of the most recent development or action plan in place which addresses the agreements, goals and/or aspirations discussed during those meetings.**
- 4. Please can you confirm when the next meeting with Royal Asset Management is scheduled, and who is representing the City of Coventry at that meeting.**

We have considered your request for information and we are of the view that the exemption provided by Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act applies. Section 43(2) of FOIA states that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person, including the public authority holding it. The exemption is subject to the public interest test which means that even if it is engaged account must be taken of the public interest in releasing the information.

The exemption is engaged on this basis because disclosing the information you have requested is likely to prejudice the commercial interest of Royal London Asset

Management in relation to the operation of the central market and the ability to participate competitively in a commercial activity. The manner in which the market is run also directly affects both its reputation and financial position.

Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption which means that even where the exemption is engaged, information can only be withheld where the public interest in maintaining that exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. We are aware that there is always some public interest in the disclosure of information. This is because it promotes the aims of transparency and accountability which in turn promotes greater public engagement and understanding of the decisions taken by public authorities. We have considered the public interest and are of the view for the reasons stated above that the public interest in maintaining the section 43(2) exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. As a result, the Council believes it is entitled to withhold the requested information.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its FOI/EIR [Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance