## **Finance Department**

Director of Finance and Governance John Turnbull CPFA



## PO Box 856, London E17 9PN

Mr Gavin Chait Contact Liz Appiah

request-437163-f997d3aa@whatdotheyknow.com Direct Line: 0208 496 8383
Our Ref: FOIX344685

Your Ref:

E-mail: Revenuesfoi@walthamforest.gov.uk

Date: 1 November 2017

Dear Mr Chait

## **Freedom of Information Request**

I am writing in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), which we received on 9 October 2017.

The wording of your request was as follows:

In terms of the Freedom of Information Act of 2000, and subject to section 40(2) on personal data, could you please provide me with a complete and upto-date list of all business (non-residential) property rates data for your local authority, and including the following fields:

- Billing Authority Reference Code (linking the property to the VOA database reference)
- Firm's Trading Name (i.e. property occupant)
- Full Property Address (Number, Street, Postal Code, Town)
- Occupied / Vacant
- Date of Occupation / Vacancy
- Actual annual rates charged (in Pounds)

In response to the above request I can confirm that the Council does hold the requested information and advise you as follows:

Please see attached spreadsheet which contains details related to limited and public limited companies only. We are withholding information related to other accounts because we consider that exemptions under the FOIA apply:

## Section 40(2)(b) – Personal information relating to a third party

Under section 40(2)(b) of the FOIA the disclosure of information is exempt if it would breach any of the principles under the Data Protection Act 1998.

Unfortunately, the Council is unable to identify the legal status of its non domestic rate payers from the records it holds except where the company within its name is described as 'limited or public limited'. The Council is therefore unable to disclose the full information requested without disclosing names or information relating to

sole traders, private individuals, partnerships or limited liability partnerships. Therefore, it cannot disclose the remainder of the requested information without disclosing information that would fall within the definition of being Personal Data as defined under the Data Protection Act 1998.

If after receiving a response to the review, you remain dissatisfied with the Council's response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Further information can be obtained via the Information Commissioner's helpline 0303 123 1113 or their website at:

http://www.ico.gov.uk/complaints/freedom\_of\_information.aspx

Yours sincerely,

Liz Appiah

**Application & Project Procurement Officer Revenues and Benefits**