

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Request for Information

Requested information:

I hereby make a FOI request for all correspondence or other material sent by, viewed or received by Councillor Richard Samuel mentioning or referencing the property located at 23 Grosvenor Place Bath BA1 6BA between the dates 31/10/2019 and today.

Response

Please find enclosed information held within the scope of your request re date range of 31/10/19 and 4/10/20.

Please note that personal data has been redacted. This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Personal Information). This section of the Act provides an exemption to the general right of access to information, where the disclosure of personal information would breach any of the Data Protection principles. The Council considers that disclosure of this information would constitute a breach of the fairness requirement of the first principle. This is because the individuals in question have not consented to the disclosure of their details. In addition they have a reasonable expectation that the Council will keep their information confidential.

We have also identified that the exemptions at section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act (Commercial Interests) and Regulation 12(4)(e) of the Environmental Information Regulations are engaged (internal communications).

Although the Council aim to be transparent and accountable to the public, we must ensure that we do not disclose information into the public domain which would prejudice internal deliberation and decision making processes. We must also ensure that we do not disclose information which would prejudice the commercial interests of the parties involved. In this instance, commercially sensitive information identified includes commercially confidential contractual arrangements that have been agreed between the Council and ADL and assessments of values made by the Council and its agents which, if released into the public domain, could be used against the Council in future negotiations. In the event the Council sought to sell on its interest in the subject property on the open market, this information could be used to identify the Council's potential negotiating position.