

## Information Requests

PP B3E 2  
County Hall  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 4DY

Please ask for: Simon Butt  
FOI Reference: 2798266  
Direct Dial: 01823 359359

Email: @

Date: 28 December 2017

Ms Lucie Stephens

Dear Ms Stephens

## Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Thank you for your request for information. We have processed your request under the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

### Your Request:

**Question 1 :** The amount of money spent on asbestos management in schools between 2006 and 2016 (to include the costs of surveys, staff training and work to enclose asbestos within schools).

**Answer 1 :** Between 1996 and 2012 SCC spent in the region of £375,000 per annum setting up a qualified team of surveyors, and then surveying all SCC properties including schools on a 5 year rolling programme and the associated remedial works. In 2013 the amount reduced to £180,000 per annum with the number of buildings owned by SCC reduced, including schools becoming Academies.

**Question 2 :** The amount of money spent on asbestos removal from schools between 2006 and 2016.

**Answer 2 :** Property, Facilities Management and Health and Safety Systems Performance carry out asbestos removal when completing maintenance projects but these costs form part of the overall cost of the project and are not collected separately. This is also only a small element of works carried out in schools so would not give a true picture of the overall costs.

We also only keep records of projects for 7 years so would not be able to give the 10 years requested.

**Question 3 :** The amount of money spent on fines for breaches in the safe management of asbestos in schools between 2006 and 2016.

**Answer 3 :** There were no fines for breaches of safe management of asbestos, but SCC received an HSE Improvement Notice in 2007 after an incident at the school. It is estimated the remedial works at the school and the works associated cost SCC in the region of £300,000

**Question 4 :** Funding sought from the Department of Education and the Education Funding Authority for the management and removal of asbestos from schools between 2006 and 2016.

**Answer 4 :** No funding specifically sought for this purpose.

**Question 5 :** The amount of funding approved by the Department of Education and the Education Funding Authority for the management and removal of asbestos from schools between 2006 and 2016.

**Answer 5 :** No funding specifically approved for this purpose.

**Question 6 :** The projected budget for future management of asbestos in schools between 2017 and 2027.

**Answer 6 :** The budget is currently £100,000 per annum for 5 year rolling programme of surveying by an internal team of surveyors and the remedial works are picked up as required but there is no actual budget.

**Please quote the reference number 2798266 in any future communications.**

If you feel your request has not been answered in sufficient detail, or if you wish to clarify the information given, please contact me, and I will be happy to address the issues you raise.

Alternatively, if you are not satisfied with our response you may request an internal review. This is an independent investigation into the handling of your request, which is carried out by the Information Governance Team. The conclusions of this investigation, and if applicable, a fresh decision about the information to be provided, should be sent to you within twenty working days of receipt of the internal review request.

To request an Internal Review please respond to the email that this response was attached to detailing why you are not satisfied, and your request will be dealt with by the information governance team.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may then appeal directly to the Information Commissioner's Office with your complaint.

The Information commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Web address: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Simon Butt  
Information Request Officer