

## Response to Request for Information

**Reference:** 1462  
**Date:** 28 November 2011  
**Type of request** Freedom of Information Request

### ***Court and/or tribunal cases***

Please give me a list of all the court or tribunal cases which the council has been involved in since 1st January 2007. By "case" I mean to include every claim, counterclaim, application, etc. By "involved in" I mean any situation where the Council is or was a party, has filed or served any court papers or had any papers served on it. By the time limit I mean to include (without limitation) any case of which any part was still ongoing at 1st January 2007, even if it was started before then.

For each case I would like to know:

- \* The names of the parties
- \* The court(s) in which the case(s) or application(s) are being or were heard
- \* All relevant court reference numbers such as case numbers, application numbers, etc.
- \* If readily available, a very brief summary, title or case heading which will give a rough idea of what the case is about; a suitable description may be found in the headings of pre-action protocol letters etc.

For the avoidance of doubt "court" should be read in this request to refer to any court, tribunal or arbitrator.

There are currently 3517 cases that have been opened since 2007. These cover all instructions that have been received, as well as requests for advice on a range of Council business. The only way to identify whether a case resulted in proceedings being issued either by the Council or another party would be to manually check the case files, which are not held electronically, to see whether it fell within the scope of this request.

In addition, to provide the details of individual cases as you have requested would require an officer to manually check each case where proceedings have been identified, to ensure that there are no non-disclosure rules in application, before extracting the relevant information and compiling it into a response document. This information is not held electronically and therefore cannot be retrieved by searches or by running a report.

Therefore, we have estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to locate and extract the information you have requested from our Archive and are refusing this request on these grounds under s.12(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and for local government is set at £450 as specified by The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. It is Cambridgeshire County Council's policy not to fulfil any requests that exceed this limit. Please follow this link to the Council's [charging policy](#) for more information.

**Information Governance Team**

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