

Ally Tibbit

[request-649611-
b72b2c20@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:b72b2c20@whatdotheyknow.com)

Your ref:

Our ref: FOI/156-20

Please ask for: FOI Team

e-mail: foirequests@bassetlaw.gov.uk

Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request For Information

I refer to your e mail Tuesday 25th February 2020 requesting information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Your request can be summarised as ‘details of Register of Interests & Gifts & Hospitality Register etc’.

Whilst the Act confers a general right of access to information held by public authorities section 1 provides that “any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled:

- a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request; and
- b) if that is the case to have that information communicated to him”, subject to the effect of the exemptions in Part 11 of the Act.

Therefore pursuant to the Council’s duty to confirm or deny whether or not it holds the information requested, the Council can confirm that it does hold the requested information but I am refusing your request insofar as the exemption provided by section 21 of the Act applies, that is the information is accessible by other means. This exemption is an absolute exemption which means that it does not have to be released and no additional evaluation is required.

However, pursuant to the Council’s duty to assist under section 16 of this Act, this information can be found using the following link to the Council’s website:

<https://data.bassetlaw.gov.uk/register-of-interests/>

The Register of Interests for District Councillors and Parish Councillors are public documents together with the Gifts and Hospitality Register (this is not on the website) and the public are entitled to visit the Council to view any of the documents. If you wish to view the documents you are requested to contact the Legal Admin Team to arrange an appointment to view. Telephone on 01909 533 533 and ask for Legal Admin Team or alternatively email Legaladmin@bassetlaw.gov.uk.

If you are dissatisfied with the Freedom of Information response set out in this letter you are able to utilise the Council’s complaints procedure which allows one right of review via this system. Details can be found using the link below:

<https://selfservice.bassetlaw.gov.uk/renderform.aspx?t=114&k=434B233ED36640BC017EF35BF398C7DFB159088D>

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint the Act confers a further right to complain to the Information Commissioner at www.ico.gov.uk or by writing to Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone 06125 545745), email mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk, however the Information Commissioner will not usually consider a complaint if the complainant has not utilised their one right of review via the Council's complaints procedure.

Yours sincerely

Bassetlaw District Council

Freedom of Information Team