

My Ref: IG-11876
Your Ref:
Contact: Freedom of Information Team
Email: FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



Nottingham
City Council

Freedom of Information Team
Information Compliance
Legal & Governance
2nd Floor
Loxley House
Station Street
Nottingham
NG2 3NG

Requester

At contact address specified for request number above

Tel: 0115 876 4376

Email:

FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk

4 March 2019

Dear Requester

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act)

The council has considered your request which was received on 5 February 2019 and our response to your questions is shown below.

Going as far back as is reasonable (eg 5 years), up to the most recent data available, Please could you provide me with a table of information under the following headings:-

- 1. Date Of hearing*
- 2. Number of CT Accounts Listed on a Complaint*
- 3. Total Court fee paid*
- 4. length of hearing - defended/undefended*
- 5. Number of CT accounts Liability Order made against*
- 6. Total costs awarded to Billing authority*
- 7. Actual cost of preparing for and attending the hearing.*
- 8. Number of Accounts in name of a Limited Company?*

Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act states:

"8.—(1) In this Act any reference to a "request for information" is a reference to such a request which—

(a) is in writing,

(b) states the name of the applicant and an address for correspondence, and

(c) describes the information requested.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a), a request is to be treated as made in writing where the text of the request—

(a) is transmitted by electronic means,

(b) is received in legible form, and

(c) is capable of being used for subsequent reference."

Unfortunately in its current form the council are unable to answer your request. This is because you have not provided a valid name in order for the council to log and



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answer your request and therefore your request is technically invalid under section 8(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) advise "For a request to be valid, the requester must provide enough of their real name to give anyone reading that request a reasonable indication of their identity... This means that if the staff processing the request cannot identify the requester from the name provided, that request will be invalid... Any variation of the requester's title or first name combined with their surname (e.g. Mr Smith or John Smith) will be sufficient to meet this requirement. However, a first name or surname provided in isolation, or a set of initials, will not."

Further information can be found here:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1164/recognising-a-request-made-under-the-foia.pdf>

What Do They Know also provide some guidance on this on their website under 'Can I make an FOI request using a pseudonym?':

<https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/privacy>

The council would recommend that you resubmit your request using your name, please also bear in mind if you use a pseudonym you will probably be unable to complain to the Information Commissioner about the handling of your request.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own personal use. If the information provided is marked as published under an [Open Government Licence](#) you are free to reuse it, subject to the licence terms. However, if the information is not published under an Open Government Licence and you wish to reuse it, for example, by publishing the information or issuing copies to the public you are required to request permission for re-use of this information under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005 (RPSI). Your RPSI request must be in writing and include your name and address for correspondence, and specify the information you want to re-use and the purpose you intend to use it for.

If you are unhappy with the response provided or with the handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review in writing stating the reasons for your dissatisfaction. Your request for an internal review should be made to the council within forty working days of the date of this letter. Please quote reference IG-11876 in all communications.

You can contact the Freedom of Information Team either by email:

FOI@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or writing to the **Freedom of Information Team, Information Compliance, Legal & Governance, 2nd Floor, Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG.**

If you remain unhappy after receiving the response to your initial complaint you can request an independent review from the Information Commissioner's Office at **FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.** You may also contact the Information Commissioner's Office by telephone on 01625 545745 or by email at mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
Legal & Governance
Nottingham City Council