

Our ref: 6949033 **Date:** 12 March 2018

Dear Ms Holley

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request. You asked to be provided with the following information:

Please could you confirm the following information in relation to premises licensed in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003:

- 1. How many premises currently pay an annual licence fee which is subject to a multiplier in Band D and Band E?
- 2. Of those premises which pay a multiplier in either Band D or Band E, how many of them are traditional public houses

Response

I can confirm that Westminster City Council holds the information you requested. However, we are withholding this information since we consider that the following exemptions apply to it.

The cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

The computer system used to record the Council licensing applications is currently unable to produce specific reports as per your request. As a result, the information you have requested will need to be manually extracted. There are currently over 3500 licensed premises in Westminster City Council. It is estimated that it will take an officer 5 minutes to review each license application and extract the information you have requested. This then would need to be collated to provide the figure in the second part of your request.

It is estimated that it would take the Council 292 hours to comply with your request.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Further information is also available from the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 or 01625 54 57 45

Fax: 01625 524510 Web: <u>www.ico.org.uk</u>

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

CMC - Public Protection and Licensing Westminster City Council