

# AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO INFORMATION REQUEST

This request was answered under the legislation indicated below:-

DP ☐ Data Protection Act 1998 (£10 fee payable)

FOI ☒ Freedom of Information Act 2000 (usually free)

EIR ☐ Environmental Information Regulations 2004

**Date Reply Sent:** 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011



**Request Reference  
FOI 1338**

Dear Aylesbury Vale District Council,

Please supply totals for the following:

1. Since the inception of Aylesbury Vale District Council, or as far as records go back, the annual figures for the total number of current employees or ex-employees of Aylesbury Vale District Council who have signed compromise agreements directly related to the resolving of dispute(s) / grievance(s) / internal and external investigation(s) / whistleblowing incident(s).

### AVDC response

Dear Mr Cardin,

Thank you for your information request to Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC).

1.  
AVDC was incepted in 1974.

There is no systemised recording / storage process for compromise agreements within this Council, however they could be archived anywhere within approx 2,500 old Personal Files. We believe we do not hold any compromise agreements on Personal Files (except those listed below of which officers are aware), but we cannot be certain for every case. We are therefore unable to 'confirm or deny' that we hold information for every case.

The "appropriate cost limit" under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is £450 (18 hours at £25 per hour).

At the conservatively estimated rate of 10 minutes to check each file, it would take over 400 hours to obtain this information on the following basis:

10 mins x 2500 files = 25,000 minutes

25,000 / 60 = 416 hours (£10,400)

We therefore estimate that compliance with your request would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, and are refusing this part of your request due to the cost/time limitation.

<p>2. In addition to this, annual figures for the number of current employees / ex-employees who have agreed, following the matter being raised and made conditional as part of a compromise agreement drawn up by the body acting as Aylesbury Vale District Council's legal team, to forgo their right to approach the council in the future with Freedom of Information and/or DPA Subject Access requests under the relevant Acts.</p> <p>Please note that I do not seek or require any personal information such as names and addresses – only the total figures for each subject area.</p> <p>Yours faithfully,</p> <p>Paul Cardin</p>	<p>However, as a guide we can say officers are aware of the following cases, and we believe these numbers are reasonably accurate going back to the year 2002. For any years not listed there were no cases.</p> <p>2002 - 1 2009 - 1 2010 - 2</p> <p>2. Nil – no compromise agreement has intended to deny right of access to data for Freedom of Information and/or DPA Subject Access requests.</p> <p>Should you require further information, please contact <a href="mailto:records@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk">records@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk</a> or write to the address below.</p> <p>If you feel that your request has not been properly handled or if you are dissatisfied with the outcome, you can request an internal review in accordance with the Council's Comments and Complaints procedure. You will find details of the procedure on our website <a href="http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk">www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk</a> under the heading Council and Democracy.</p> <p>Please note that you have the right to make a complaint direct to the Information Commissioner and details on how to do this are set out on the Information Commissioner's website <a href="http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk">www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk</a> under the heading "Complaints". The Information Commissioner, however, will normally expect a complainant to have exhausted a public authority's internal review procedures first.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>Philip Giles Information and Administration Officer IT Division Aylesbury Vale District Council 66 High Street Aylesbury Bucks, HP20 1SD</p>
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