



Nick Jackson  
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**Customer Relations Team**

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Please ask for: the Information Access Officer

Date: 30 October 2017

My Ref: 894355

Your Ref:

Dear Mr Jackson

**Freedom of Information Request – Section 40(1) FoI Exemptions**

I am writing further to my email dated 3 October 2017 regarding your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Council does hold the information that you have requested but we are withholding some of the information in accordance with Section 12 of the Act, because it would take in excess of 18 hours or would cost more than £450 to comply, which exceeds the statutory appropriate limit.

I have attached our response which details how your request exceeded the appropriate limit; please contact me if you would like to refine your request or require advice about how to go about this (although we cannot guarantee at this stage that a refined request will fall within the FOIA appropriate limit).

Please note that the information supplied can mostly be re-used in accordance with the Open Government Licence. The council should be acknowledged as the source of the information, but copyright is maintained for all photographs and third party contributions to the information supplied. For further details see <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open%2Dgovernment%2Dlicence/>.

If you wish to discuss this letter or the information provided please contact the Information Access Officer using the contact details above. If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled you can request a review by writing to the Information Access Officer stating the reason for your dissatisfaction. Following the review, if you remain unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office via their website:

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/getting/> or by writing to:

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

Information about the Freedom of Information Act 2000 can be found on the Information Commissioners Office website: <http://www.ico.org.uk>. Plymouth City Council also has information available on our website: <http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/home/council/dataandinformation/freedominformationfoi>

Yours sincerely,

Bea Belgrave-Jones  
**Information Access Team Leader**

Q1. How many FOI requests did you receive in the year Jan 1st 2016 - Dec 31st 2016 (or your equivalent business/financial year), and;

**A1. 133**

Q2. How many FOI Section 40(1) exemptions did you employ during this same time period?

**A2. We are withholding this information because we estimate that the time taken to provide this data would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12 of the Freedom of information Act 2000. This is currently £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of staff time).**

**We are, unfortunately, unable to reliably report, through our central case management system, how many times the exemption in Section 40(1) was engaged. There were 1143 requests received in the timescale specified and it would take approximately 5 minutes to manually check each record. This equates to 95 hours.**

**However, we can advise you that our records show that Section 40 (1) was engaged at least 4 times in 2016.**