

Ref: FOI / 1684

06 March 2018

Ms BBC 5 Live

Email: @icloud.com

Dear Ms

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request Complaints about Private Landlords

I refer to your FOI request as above.

Request:

How many complaints about private landlords has your local authority received in the following financial years: 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, and 2016/17. Could you please separate by financial year.

Response:

As you may be aware Section 12(1) of the FOIA contains a provision which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit. For local authorities, this limit is set at £450 or 18 hours - The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 SI 2004 No 3244 refers.

I can advise that the information requested is not held in a format which would permit division of responsibility between a private landlord, owner occupier and a housing association. This request would require the Council to perform a manual search of all its complaint archives over a period of five years and then a check to locate the specific information requested. Whilst it is not possible to produce an accurate estimate of the amount of time such an exercise would take, it is likely to be well in excess of the 18 hours stipulated in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. This therefore acts as a Refusal Notice.

Strahane

If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie **Chief Executive** Derry City and Strabane District Council 98 Strand Road Derry **BT48 7NN** Tel 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow

CHESHIRE SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Principal Environmental Health Officer

@dcsdcouncil