



Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request for Information –FOI 1092
Applicable cost limit exceeded

Thank you for your email of 8th August 2017 where you requested information about – A copy of the full reports of food hygiene ratings issued by the council in the past year.

From our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer your request without further clarification.

1. Section 12(1) allows the Council to refuse to deal with a request where it estimates that it would exceed the limit of £450 to either comply with the request in its entirety, or confirm or deny whether the requested information is held. The estimate must be reasonable in the circumstances of the case.
 2. The Council can charge a maximum of £25 per hour to undertake work to comply with a request. This provides an effective time limit of 18 hours.
 3. In order to provide you with the information on the scale that you have requested would require:- A report to identify the names and addresses of all premises inspected in the last year which is estimated to be in the region of 475 from the last annual return; interrogation of the IT system used to find the inspection reports; Printing of the full reports and redacting of personal information, scanning of the redacted reports and emailing the final documents to the requestor.
 4. The Council has estimated a cost of £4,625 to determine the appropriate material and locate, retrieve and extract the information. Therefore, as complying with your request would exceed 18 hours, or £450, section 12(1) provides that the Council may refuse your request.
 5. You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required.
 6. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review, addressed to Marie Kelly-Stone Head of Legal Services marie.kelly-stone@dartford.gov.uk
- Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.
7. 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. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.



Yours sincerely

Assistant Environmental Health Manager
Environmental Health