

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2002, we submit our request for the following information in respect of businesses and/or individuals licensed to sell or supply alcohol within your local authority:

1. The total number of licensed outlets within your local authority area.
2. The total number of outlets with a restriction applied to them for ABV on any alcohol product other than beer and cider.
3. The total number of outlets with a restriction applied to them for ABV on beer and cider products.
4. The names of the outlets with a restriction applied to them for ABV on beer and cider products.
5. The reasons for applying a restriction to these outlets.
6. The process for selection of products to apply a restriction to for ABV, on beer and cider ranges.
7. The strategy to review a license renewal application for incorporating future restrictions for ABV on beer and cider.
8. Any specific brands which have a restriction for ABV on beer and cider placed on them.
9. Any specific conditions placed on restricting sale of products of beer and cider:
 - ABV %
 - Number of cans/bottles in a pack for retail
 - Packaging restrictions i.e. glass bottle / can

Response:

Q 1. There are 871 active licensed outlets (which include alcohol). This is broken down as follows:

- 816 x premises licences (with alcohol)
- 55 x club premises certificates (with alcohol)

Qs 2-4. We do not hold the information for these questions in an easily retrievable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/3244) set out the rules in relation to the cost limit (otherwise called the "appropriate limit"). These Regulations are published by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) and are viewable on their web site from this link: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf

The Regulations set out the cost limit for Government departments and for other public authorities. For local government, Regulation 3 states that the cost limit is £450 and Regulation 4(4) states that the prescribed hourly rate is £25. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to

gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA.

I am satisfied the cost limit applies to your request and will explain why this is the case. Collating this information will take over 18 hours. Each licence record would need to be checked individually to check if there is such a restriction listed. This is based on approximately 5-10 minutes per record.

Q 5. Each application is considered on its own merits and is reviewed by all the responsible authorities as set out in the legislation. Responsible authorities will have regard to the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy, the Statutory Guidance, the content of the application, the location, and any local issues, when considering if to make any representations of this nature.

Q 6. Generally, we will apply a model condition, however this can change as part of negotiations with an applicant, or their agent.

Q 7. The above licences and certificates are issued indefinitely in accordance with the legislation. An annual fee is payable each year to keep the licence active, but there is no renewal process.

Q 8. We do not specify any specific brands.

Q 9. The model conditions currently used are as follows:

- The premises shall not sell any beer, lager or cider that has an ABV of 6.5% or above
- Any beer, lager or cider shall be sold in minimum packs of 4 (when bottles and cans are 500ml or below)