



## **REQUEST 18231**

We request under FOIA that you provide, (preferably in Microsoft Excel or an equivalent machine-readable format) the following information in respect of suppliers which were not paid in within 30 days for the period starting 1 April 2019 to the date of this request:

1. Supplier Name
2. Invoice Date
3. Gross Invoice Value
4. Payment Date
5. Late Payment Compensation or Interest Paid (if any)

## **RESPONSE**

Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act applies because the release of this information is likely to prejudice the law enforcement or other regulatory activity carried out by the Council namely 'the prevention or detection of crime'.

Disclosure of this information into the public domain is prohibited by Section 31(1)a of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It is the council's view that disclosing the above information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention of crime in that releasing the details of late payments would increase the likelihood of fraudulent claims.

Section 31(1)(a) exemption is subject to the public interest test to consider factors which both favour disclosure of the information and factors in favour of maintaining the exemption.

The council have concluded that the factors in favour of maintaining the exemption outweigh the factors in favour of disclosure. Therefore, the balance of the public interest test is greater in maintaining the exemption under Section 31(1)(a) of the Act.