



Wigan[♥]
Council

REQUEST 18286

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide copies of any internal documents, reports, meeting minutes, officer briefings, or emails dated between January 2018 and June 2025 that refer to the potential implementation of a borough-wide Article 4 Direction in relation to Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs), specifically any proposals, discussions, or plans to extend Article 4 beyond the Swinley and Central Leigh areas.

RESPONSE

The Council confirms it holds the information requested but is withholding it from disclosure as it believes that disclosure of the information would inhibit the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation (section 36(2)(b)(ii) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000). The Council has undertaken a Public Interest Test and concluded that the balance of that test favours withholding the information.

Please note that the Cabinet Report of 3rd July 2025 date can be viewed on the [Council website](#) and this open report shows that risks and issues are apparent and were considered in regard to the recommendations around bringing an Article 4 Direction in on a boroughwide basis