



Request

1. How many times was Wigan Council called out to deal with pests in the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25?
2. What kinds of pests were involved?
3. Where were the pests? If you are not able to give addresses, please specify whether they were council houses, businesses, schools etc.

Response

Please see attached excel spreadsheet

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.

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

The system we currently have for pest control has a very limited reporting function. I cannot extract yearly data, it must be done on weekly reports, via the booking search option. Each report must be run and exported to a csv file, then converted to an excel file to work on extracting and redacting relevant data. This would mean I'd have to run at least 104 reports and spend around 15 minutes per report extracting the information to give locations such as street names. This would take around 26hrs in total to complete. However, the system does have an option to report on how many requests were made per council ward. I have supplied this data which I hope is sufficient.