



## **Request**

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information on all live Section 278 and Section 38 Bonds which have remained outstanding for 5+ years.

I have included a template which outlines the data we require for each site, please could you provide the data in an excel spreadsheet

## **Response**

We do not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. Regulation 12(4)(b) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 allows a public authority to refuse to disclose information to the extent that the request for information is manifestly unreasonable.

Based on a conservative estimate of 45 minutes to review each of live bonds on the 45 sites this will take over 33 hours to compile the requested information.

## **Public Interest Test**

Under Regulation 12(1)(b), the Council must apply a public interest test when relying on an exception. In this case, the Council recognise the public interest in transparency and accountability regarding planning and development matters, particularly those affecting local communities and the environment.

However, this must be balanced against the public interest in ensuring that public authorities can carry out their core functions effectively and efficiently. Requiring officers to divert substantial time and resources to locate and extract the requested information would adversely impact service delivery and the Council's ability to meet other statutory obligations.

On balance, the Council considers that the public interest in maintaining the exception outweighs the public interest in disclosure. Therefore, the request is considered manifestly unreasonable under Regulation 12(4)(b).

Nevertheless, the Council remains committed to working collaboratively with Taylor Wimpey to progress the adoption of the development.