

FOI 365/2016

REQUEST

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I ask you kindly to send me details of the following:

1. How much funding was:

- a. budgeted for;
- b. allocated to;
- c. spent by;

your electoral or democratic services department (or equivalent) in (i) 2010-11, (ii) 2011-12, (iii) 2012-13, (iv) 2013-14, (v) 2014-15 and (vi) to date in 2015-16?

2. And, of such funding (in no. 1) that was:

- a. budgeted for;
- b. allocated to;
- c. spent by;

your electoral or democratic services department, what amount was contributed by (i) the authority itself, (ii) other local or combined authorities, (iii) the Cabinet Office, (iv) a government department or agency other than the UK Government Cabinet Office and (v) the Electoral Commission

3. How many:

- a. electors aged over 18;
- b. electors aged under 18 (attainers);

were confirmed on the electoral register on (i) 1 December 2014, (ii) 1 February 2015, (iii) 9 February 2015, (iv) 7 May 2015, (v) 1 December 2015, (vi) 31 January 2016, (vii) 8 February 2016, (viii) 5 May 2016 and (ix) 10 June 2016.

4. How many applications to register to vote were received between 30 May 2016 and 9 June 2016, and, of that number, how many such applicants were already registered to vote (i.e. 'duplicate' applicants)?

5. Please can you provide a copy of the (a) Electoral Registration Officer's public engagement strategy, and (b) copies of the ERO's strategies relating to (i) 2010-11, (ii) 2011-12, (iii) 2012-13, (iv) 2013-14 and (v) 2014-15

6. Which local 16+ educational establishments has the ERO - or the ERO's staff have (a) contacted in order to seek to visit, and (b) visited in (i) 2014-15, and (ii) to date 2015-16, in order to seek to register pupils, students etc.

I would like the above information to be provided to me as electronic copies, either within Excel spreadsheets, Word tables or PDF files as long as the data is clear to understand. If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters. If any of this information is already in the public domain, please can you direct me to it, with page references and URL addresses if necessary.

If this request exceeds the cost limit of £450, kindly restrict the request to questions 1 and 3 (as above):

1. How much funding was:

- a. budgeted for;
- b. allocated to;
- c. spent by;

your electoral or democratic services department (or equivalent) in (i) 2010-11, (ii) 2011-12, (iii) 2012-13, (iv) 2013-14, (v) 2014-15 and (iv) to date in 2015-16?

3. How many:

- a. electors aged over 18;
- b. electors aged under 18;

were confirmed on the electoral register on (i) 1 December 2014, (ii) 1 February 2015, (iii) 9 February 2015, (iv) 7 May 2015, (v) 1 December 2015, (vi) 31 January 2016, (vii) 8 February 2016, (viii) 5 May 2016 and (ix) 10 June 2016

RESPONSE

Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) are not a public authority under the Freedom Information Act 2000 or Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and, as such, are exempt from the disclosure requirements imposed by that legislation.

In order to assist, we have collated some data in respect of Questions 1) and 3) and hope the following is useful.

“How many (a) electors aged over 18, and (b) electors aged under 18, were confirmed on the electoral register on (i) 1 December 2014, (ii) 1 February 2015, (iii) 9 February 2015, (iv) 7 May 2015, (v) 1 December 2015, (vi) 31 January 2016, (vii) 8 February 2016, (viii) 5 May 2016 and (ix) 10 June 2016”.

Please note, our electoral registration system produces electorates as at the 1st working day of the month, so the figures provided do not entirely match the specification above.

| | Electors aged over 18 | Electors aged under 18 |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| December 2014 | 107,861 | 37 |
| February 2015 | 108,282 | 201 |
| May 2015 | 109,573 | 310 |
| December 2015 | 108,642 | 127 |

| | | |
|---------------|---------|-----|
| January 2016 | 108,658 | 276 |
| February 2016 | 108,861 | 281 |
| May 2016 | 108,839 | 380 |
| June 2016 | 111,209 | 521 |

“How much funding was:

- a. budgeted for;
- c. spent by;

your electoral department (or equivalent) in (i) 2010-11, (ii) 2011-12, (iii) 2012-13, (iv) 2013-14, (v) 2014-15 and (iv) to date in 2015-16?”

| Financial Year | Budget £ | Actual £ |
|----------------|----------|------------|
| 15/16 | 505,910 | 505,444.98 |
| 14/15 | 250,360 | 273,306.13 |
| 13/14 | 229,990 | 200,469.31 |
| 12/13 | 245,350 | 244,854.79 |
| 11/12 | 385,840 | 344,822.58 |
| 10/11 | 275,520 | 257,221.54 |