

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

By email

Our Ref: MGLA021017-9231

27 October 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 2 October 2017. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Our response to your request is as follows:

1) How many FOI requests did you receive in the year Jan 1st 2016 - Dec 31st 2016 (or your equivalent business/financial year), and

For the calendar year 2016, the total figure is 697 FOI requests

The Greater London Authority reports on the number of requests received in each financial year. The figures for 2015-16 are available on our website at https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2015-6_annual_foi_performance_report.pdf.

The final report for 2016-17 will be published shortly at <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>.

2) How many FOI Section 21 exemptions did you employ during this same time period?

In the calendar year 2016, the GLA did not formally apply any section 21 exemptions when responding to requests.

However the GLA did also handle information access requests where applicants requested information either already available on the GLA website or that could be provided in a straightforward response to their correspondence.

While these routine requests would technically constitute valid FOIA or EIR requests, the GLA treats them as normal business enquiries providing they can be answered with a prompt response and where it does not infringe on the applicant's right of access to information held by the Authority (i.e. where the information can be provided in full either by a direct answer to their question or by supplying a link to information we have already published).

The GLA adopts this approach to help provide applicants with a straightforward response to their enquiry and to avoid engaging the FoIA/EIR processes unnecessarily.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA021017-9231

Yours sincerely

Ruth Phillips
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>