

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA030818-9528

3 September 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information about graffiti which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 2 August 2018. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

For the past ten years, year on year, please provide the following data, (please specify whether the data is calendar or financial year):

- 1. How much has the council been spending on clearing up graffiti? (year on year for the past 10 etc)*
- 2. How many cases of graffiti have been reported/recorded year on year, for the past 10 years?*
- 3. How many of these cases were reported/recorded as racist – year on year, for the past 10 years?*
- 4. How many of these cases were reported/recorded as sexist – year on year, for the past 10 years? (Or are they recorded as hate crimes?)*
- 5. How many times have places of worship been targeted – year on year, for the past 10 years?*
- 6. Are there any examples of places that have been repeatedly targeted? If so how many times in the time frame.*
- 7. What are the most targeted type of places / spaces?*

Because your request refers to Councils, I should clarify that the GLA is London's strategic government and does not operate in the same way as local councils, who are responsible for clearing graffiti in their areas. You can find the websites for London's Borough Councils and the City of London at <https://www.london.gov.uk/in-my-area>.

The GLA is responsible for clearing graffiti in or on City Hall itself and in the two Public spaces that we manage – Parliament Square Gardens and Trafalgar Square. Please find below the information we hold within the scope of your request:

- 1. How much has the council been spending on clearing up graffiti? (year on year for the past 10 etc)**
- 2. How many cases of graffiti have been reported/recorded year on year, for the past 10 years?**

Please see attached table and notes.

- 3. How many of these cases were reported/recorded as racist – year on year, for the past 10 years?**
- 4. How many of these cases were reported/recorded as sexist – year on year, for the past 10 years? (Or are they recorded as hate crimes?)**

We do not hold any information within the scope of this part of your request. We do not log whether any graffiti is racist/sexist and we do not log details of the specific content/images/text.

- 5. How many times have places of worship been targeted – year on year, for the past 10 years?**

We do hold any information within the scope of this part of your request. There are no places of worship within any of these areas.

- 6. Are there any examples of places that have been repeatedly targeted? If so how many times in the time frame.**
- 7. What are the most targeted type of places / spaces?**

The most targeted spaces are Trafalgar Square and Parliament Square Gardens. The statues and monuments are repeatedly targeted. In addition, this year the windows at City Hall have been repeatedly targeted by protestors.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA030818-9528.

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>

- 1. How much has the council been spending on clearing up graffiti? (year on year for the past 10 etc)**
- 2. How many cases of graffiti have been reported/recorded year on year, for the past 10 years?**

The information is recorded in different ways by each contractor

The street cleansing Contractor is responsible for cleaning graffiti at Parliament Square and Trafalgar Square (unless on statues/monuments – see below). We do not hold details of individual incidents with a precise spend attached. However, we hold details of the amount budgeted for dealing with graffiti in the annual contract sum as follows. We do not hold information before 2010 as this was the year that the street cleansing contract began.

<i>Grffiti Removal</i>	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Trafalgar Square	£ 1,103.79	£ 1,156.77	£ 1,201.88	£ 1,241.54	£ 1,276.30	£ 1,291.62	£ 1,309.70	£ 1,347.68	£ 1,386.76
Parliament Square	£ 707.07	£ 741.01	£ 769.91	£ 795.32	£ 817.59	£ 827.40	£ 838.98	£ 863.31	£ 888.35
Total GLA contract	£ 1,810.86	£ 1,897.78	£ 1,971.79	£ 2,036.86	£ 2,093.89	£ 2,119.02	£ 2,148.68	£ 2,210.99	£ 2,275.11

This does not include specialist monument and statue cleaning which is carried out by a heritage stone contractor. Details of incidents and costs are as follows. We do not hold information prior to 2016, as this was the year contractors began recording jobs using a CAFM (Computer Aided Facilities Management) system

Total cost for 2016 £7,250.42
Total incidents 2016 16

Total cost for 2017 £699.84
Total incidents 2017 2

Cost for 2018 to date	£1,487.16
Incidents 2018 to date	8

City Hall

In addition, there were 2 incidents of graffiti on City Hall windows in 2017 which was removed by window cleaning contractors at a total cost of **£800**

There was an additional incident of graffiti at City Hall in 2017 which was removed by cleaning contractors at a cost of **£117**

We have no recorded incidents or costs for graffiti logged for 2010-16 at City Hall or 2018 to date.