

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_2019094**
Date FOI Received: **29/01/2019**
Department: **Environmental Health**
Title: **Fixed penalty notices for littering**
Description: **The number and revenue raised from Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) for littering 2014/15 to date and staffing.**

Request: *(As Redacted sent by requestor)*

I am making a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

1) I would like to be told the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued by the council for littering for the following years:

- :: 2014/15
- :: 2015/16
- :: 2016/17
- :: 2017/18
- :: 2018/19 - to the most recent available figures.

2) What was the revenue to the council from the issuing of FPNs for littering for the following years:

- :: 2014/15
- :: 2015/16
- :: 2016/17
- :: 2017/18
- :: 2018/19 - to the most recent available figures.

3) Could you please specify what the council consider 'littering'? I.e. are there separate penalties for dog mess or cigarette butts or do these all come under 'littering'? If there is a breakdown of what constitutes 'littering' please provide it.

4) How much is the fine of Fixed Penalty Notices you issue?

5) Who patrols areas and issues FPN's for littering on behalf of the council? Are officers directly employed by the council or is monitoring litter subcontracted to a private company? If so, which one?

6) What was the revenue to a private company, if any, for issuing FPNs for littering on behalf of the council for the following years:

- :: 2014/15
- :: 2015/16
- :: 2016/17
- :: 2017/18
- :: 2018/19 - to the most recent available figures.

If it is not possible to provide all the information requested due to the request exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please answer as many of the questions as is possible within the time limits– or advise me as to how this request can be broken down to comply.

If any of this information is available publicly, please provide a link to the document or webpage where the information, exactly as requested, is published.

Response: *(Response as Redacted sent by service)*

1) I would like to be told the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued by the council for littering for the following years:

- :: 2014/15 - 5
- :: 2015/16 – 11
- :: 2016/17 - 8
- :: 2017/18 – 13
- :: 2018/19 - to the most recent available figures - 0

2) What was the revenue to the council from the issuing of FPNs for littering for the following years:

- :: 2014/15 - £200

:: 2015/16 - £500
:: 2016/17 – £250
:: 2017/18 - £600

:: 2018/19 - to the most recent available figures - Nil

3) Could you please specify what the council consider 'littering'? Are there separate penalties for dog mess or cigarette butts or do these all come under 'littering'? If there is a breakdown of what constitutes 'littering' please provide it.

Any person who throws down, drops or otherwise deposits and leaves anything whatsoever in any area which is open to the air, including private land, commits an offence of leaving litter under section 87 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 – this includes dog mess and cigarette butts.

4) How much is the fine of Fixed Penalty Notices you issue? £75 reduced to £50 if paid within 10 days

5) Who patrols areas and issues FPN's for littering on behalf of the council? Are officers directly employed by the council or is monitoring litter subcontracted to a private company? If so, which one?

Council Officers

6) What was the revenue to a private company, if any, for issuing FPNs for littering on behalf of the council for the following years: Not applicable

:: 2014/15

:: 2015/16

:: 2016/17

:: 2017/18

:: 2018/19 - to the most recent available figures.

If it is not possible to provide all the information requested due to the request exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please answer as many of the questions as is possible within the time limits– or advise me as to how this request can be broken down to comply.

If any of this information is available publicly, please provide a link to the document or webpage where the information, exactly as requested, is published.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office

Wycliffe House, Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 01625 545700

Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards

Information Services