

FOI number: **HBC\_FOI\_20200054**  
Date FOI Received: **20/01/2020**  
Department: **Environmental Health**  
Title: **Domestic chimneys and exemptions**  
Description: **Incidents of objectionable smoke from domestic chimneys have you dealt with where the heating appliance producing the smoke had been 'exempted' from the Clean Air Act.**

**Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)**

We're investigating uses and abuse of the Clean Air Act.

How many incidents of objectionable smoke from domestic chimneys have you dealt with where the heating appliance producing the smoke had been 'exempted' from the Clean Air Act?

This request is, of course, made under the Environmental Information Regulations, but we quite understand that you may not easily have the information to hand and, at this stage, we'd be perfectly happy if you can just supply a rough estimate.

Thank you very much, we think this is important and hope it will feed into improved legislation.

This is only to try and get an estimate for the whole country, so, while some figures for the last 5 years would be handy, any information you can supply - maybe just the total number of complaints of smoke from domestic chimneys - would be hugely helpful.

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

During the period 1 January 2015 to 30 January 2020 there has been 2 domestic wood burner complaints.

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](http://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