



COLWICH PARISH COUNCIL

Colwich Parish Council Disclosure Log

Request: CPC FOI 09/25

Subject: Accounts

Question:

Following on from the previous email where you stated that individual salaries are protected under the data protection and freedom of information?

From the **Local government transparency code 2015**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-transparency-code-2015>

"This document sets out the minimum data that local authorities should be publishing, the frequency it should be published and how it should be published."

"Part 2: Information which must be published"

Within this document, paragraphs 48-49 reads:

"48. Local authorities are already required to publish, under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015[footnote 41]:

the number of employees whose remuneration in that year was at least £50,000 in brackets of £5,000

details of remuneration and job title of certain senior employees whose salary is at least £50,000, and

employees whose salaries are £150,000 or more must also be identified by name

49. In addition to this requirement, local authorities **must place a link on their website to these published data or place the data itself on their website, together with a list of responsibilities** (for example, the services and functions they are responsible for, budget held and number of staff) and details of bonuses and 'benefits-in-kind', for all employees whose **salary exceeds £50,000**. The key differences between the requirements under this Code and the Regulations referred to above is the addition of a **list of responsibilities**, the inclusion of bonus details for all senior employees whose salary exceeds £50,000 and publication of the data on the authority's website."

Also Paragraph 52

"52. Local authorities must, under this Code, publish the pay multiple on their website, defined as the ratio between the highest paid taxable earnings for the given year (including base salary, variable pay, bonuses, allowances and the cash value of any benefits-in-kind) and the median earnings figure of the whole of the authority's workforce. The measure must:"

"Senior salaries

Information which must be published

Annual publication - Local authorities must place a link on their website to the following data or must place the data itself on their website:

the number of employees whose remuneration in that year was at least £50,000 in brackets of £5,000

details of remuneration and job title of certain senior employees whose salary is at least £50,000

employees whose salaries are £150,000 or more must also be identified by name a list of responsibilities (for example, the services and functions they are responsible for, budget held and number of staff) and details of bonuses and 'benefits in kind', for all employees whose salary exceeds £50,000"

Therefore from the above I presume that anyone with a remuneration of over £50000 should be published with a listing of their responsibilities?

Also the highest paid should be quoted as a ratio against the median.

Please treat this as a freedom of information (FOI) request that can be published so that others do not have to ask the same?

Response:

The Council, under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act, can neither confirm nor deny whether the salary of any official meets the criteria mentioned in your request as such information is exempt under Section 40(2), personal data, of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can ask the Council to review its response. If you want the Council to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days. Details of the Council's Complaints Procedure, which is overseen by the Complaints Committee and includes requests to review FOI responses, may be found on the Council's website. As per the Council's published policy, you may direct your request either to me, as the Chief Officer to the Council, or direct to the Chairman of the Complaints Committee (Cllr Bloor).

If you are still dissatisfied after the Council's internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints. Alternatively, you may write to the ICO at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.