

22 March 2016

Our Ref: e18840

Re: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Your request for information which was received on 18 March 2016 has been considered.

Please find our response below.

Your request:

1) *A list of all secondary schools in your Local Authority that were oversubscribed on national offer day in 2016 (1st March).*

Notes:

- a) Please include all schools offering secondary education. For example, please include upper and middle schools if these are present in your local authority.*
- b) We define a school to be oversubscribed if and only if at least one on-time applicant was refused a place, and the applicant did not receive an offer from any higher preference school. If there were no refusals, then we do not consider the school to be oversubscribed even if it admitted up to its admission number. If you use a different definition of oversubscription, then please could you make this clear in the response.*
- c) If you are not able to provide this information for all schools, then please state which schools you do not know the oversubscription status for.*
- d) Please include either URN, DFE code, or address/postcode to allow us to identify the relevant school without ambiguity.*

2) *For each of the oversubscribed schools identified under (1) above:*

- a) The admission criterion that the last successful pupil was admitted under.*
- b) The home-to-school distance and unit of measurement of this last successful applicant (i.e. the cut-off distance), where distance was used to prioritise this last place.*
- c) For grammar schools only - the minimum qualifying score in the entrance tests.*

If you feel that more information is required to interpret your answers to these questions, then please supply this information too.

Our response:

We are currently part way through the admissions process and the information will be published in Admissions brochure which will be available on the Council's website on 1 September 2016.

It may assist you to note the relevant web-link:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/secondary_school_admissions.htm

We are also able to advise that there are no grammar schools in the borough with regards to Question 2c.

Kind regards

Data Protection and Information Officer

Appendix 1

Section 22: Information intended for future publication

Section 22 of the FOIA says that information is exempt if, at the time a public authority receives a request for it:

- The public authority holds it with a view to its publication;
- The public authority or another person intends to publish the information at some future date, whether determined or not; and
- In all the circumstances it is reasonable to withhold the information prior to publication.

Richmond Council confirms that it holds the information and that it is intended for publication on its website.

Richmond Council considers it is reasonable to withhold the statistics prior to publication as this is in accordance with usual practices and information should be disclosed in the same format to maintain a consistent approach.

As we consider the exemption is therefore engaged, we will now explain our decision with regards to the public interest in disclosure.

Public Interest in Disclosure

Richmond Council acknowledges a generic public interest in transparency.

Public Interest in maintaining the exemption

Information Commissioner Decision Notice [FS50209662](#) outlines that the balance of the public interest must focus on whether in the circumstances of the case it would be in the public interest for the public authority to keep to its original timetable for disclosure or whether in the circumstances of the case the public interest would warrant an earlier disclosure.

Richmond Council considers it is in the general public interest to disclose the information at the intended time and that there is no specific or pressing public interest in providing the information before the usual date. We consider it would not be in the public interest to prematurely disclose information if to do so may mean it is read out of the context of the overall usual disclosure.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice

You have the right of appeal against the decision. If you wish to appeal please set out in writing your grounds of appeal and send to:

Corporate Complaints and Access to Information Manager
Community Engagement and Accountability Team
Adult and Community Services
3rd Floor Civic Centre
44 York Street
Twickenham
TW1 3BZ
E-mail: foi@richmond.gov.uk

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal appeal you may appeal further to the Information Commissioner's Office at:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
fax: 01625 524 510
DX 20819
www.ico.org.uk