



<b>DATE:</b>	<b>03 April 2018</b>	<b>FOI REQUEST NO:</b>	<b>326_1718</b>
<p><b>Please provide details, including outcomes, of all fire safety compliance inspections conducted on high-rise residential buildings since 14 June 2017.</b></p> <p>The number of inspections/audits carried out since June 14<sup>th</sup> the number is 233. This number is correct as at 13<sup>th</sup> April, however, our inspection programme is ongoing therefore this number will continually increase.</p> <p>In relation to your request to be informed of the outcomes of each of those inspections Your request for information has now been considered and we conclude that we are not obliged to supply the information requested.</p> <p>Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Wales Fire &amp; Rescue Service (SWFRS), when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you with a notice which states the exemptions that apply and an explanation as to how the decision to withhold has been made.</p> <p>In this case the exemption that applies is Section 12 – the cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.</p> <p>Providing the information requested would involve the manual interrogation of over 200 files. It is estimated that this would exceed the 18.5hr timescale "appropriate limit" prescribed in the "Freedom of Information and Data Protection (appropriate limit and fees) regulations 2004" (the Regulations).</p> <p>In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.</p> <p>Under our Section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we have considered whether there is any way that your request could be processed within the appropriate limit. It was noted that if the time period requested was reduced and therefore the number of records was lower – this may then fall within the limit – however, it is likely that the request would still be refused.</p> <p>This is based on work undertaken on similar requests and where we have previously undertaken the required Public Interest Test.</p> <p>In those cases, the exemptions applied were:</p> <p>S38 – Health and Safety S43 – Commercial Interests</p> <p>The buildings involved are mixed in use and ownership and SWFRS are working closely with all parties. In relation to residential premises affected – all residents have been appropriately informed and advice has been given. To disclose details of those premises into the wider public domain could cause significant distress to those individuals – and could lead to intrusion into the private lives of those individuals by those seeking more information.</p>			

In relation to the public and commercial properties - information disclosed could be detrimental to the commercial interests of the individuals and organisations involved – which would be unwarranted given that all organisations are working with the relevant authorities to resolve this situation; and that the cladding itself may not present a significant risk due to other safety measures in place.

It has also been considered that the release into the public arena relating to any premises that may have a fire safety weakness represents a risk to the occupiers of those premises – as it can make that building a target to those with criminal intent.

*If, upon receiving a response to a written request for information, you are unhappy with the outcome, you are entitled to appeal against the decision reached or complain about the way your request has been handled. To do so, please submit that request in writing, including your grounds for a review, to - The Information Governance and Compliance Officer, South Wales Fire & Rescue Headquarters, Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, CF72 8LX or by email to: [dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk)*

*If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner who can be contacted at the following address - The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Website - [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).*