Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations Performance Statistics 2026–2027

This report summarises the Council's performance in handling requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) during Quarter 2 of the 2026/27 financial year (1 July 2026 to 30 September 2026). It presents information on request volumes, timeliness of responses, compliance with statutory timescales, the application of relevant legislative provisions, and the handling and outcomes of internal reviews. The statistics have been compiled to support transparency, accountability and continuous service improvement, and are published in line with the Council's commitment to openness and the principles of good information governance.

Key data collection

Data to collect	Q2 2026/2027
Total requests received	553
Total open requests	31
Total of open requests with permitted extensions – public interest test	5
Total of open requests with permitted extensions – complex and voluminous	14
Total requests closed	368
Total requests closed within statutory timescale	307
Total requests closed with a permitted extension	19
Total requests closed outside statutory timescale	61
Total closed requests where information was withheld under the provision at section 12	26
Total closed requests where information was withheld under the provision at section 14	3
Total internal reviews received	30
Total requests with a stopped clock for clarification	16
Total requests with a paused clock for fees notice	3

Note: The total open requests figure includes 26 requests received during Quarter 2 2026/27 that remained open at the end of the reporting period and 5 requests brought forward from Quarter 1.

Additional data collection

Request volumes and compliance

Data to collect	Q2 2026/27
Compliance rate (%)	83.42%
Total FOI requests received	380
Total EIR requests received	173
Total of overdue requests	24
Total of overdue requests over one month old	14
Total of overdue requests over three months old	4
Total of overdue requests over six months old	0
Total of overdue requests over nine months old	0
Total of overdue requests over one year old	0

Internal review timeliness and outcomes

Internal review timeliness

Data to collect	Q2 2026/27
Total internal reviews closed within timescale	26
Total internal reviews closed outside timescale	1

Internal review outcomes

Outcome	Qtr2 2026/27
Internal reviews upheld in full	4
Internal reviews partially upheld	11
Internal reviews not upheld (decision upheld)	12

Commentary

During Quarter 2 2026/27, the Council received 553 requests under FOIA and EIR, comprising 380 FOI requests and 173 EIR requests. A total of 368 requests were closed during the quarter, of which 307 were completed within the applicable statutory timescale, resulting in a compliance rate of 83.42%.

At the end of the quarter, 31 requests remained open. This figure includes 26 requests received during Quarter 2 and 5 requests brought forward from Quarter 1. Of the 31 open requests, 24 were overdue. Of these, 14 had been overdue for more than one month, including 4 that had been overdue for more than three months. There were no requests more than six months overdue.

The Council received 30 internal review requests during the quarter. Twenty-seven internal reviews were completed, of which 26 were completed within the Council's target timescale and 1 was completed outside timescale. Of those concluded, 12 were not upheld, 11 were partially upheld and 4 were upheld in full.

During Quarter 2, 16 requests had the statutory timescale stopped pending clarification from the requester, and 3 requests had the timescale paused following the issue of a fees notice.