

Nicola Hesketh
Project and Information CoOrdinator

Our Ref: FOI4204/NH/02
Please ask for: Nicola Hesketh
Direct dial: 01827 709 587
E-mail: FOImailbox@tamworth.gov.uk

[name redacted]
Charity Retail Association
4th Floor, 356 Holloway Road
London
N7 6PA

25th November 2016

Dear [name redacted]

Freedom of Information – Request for Information

With regards to your recent enquiry for information held by the Authority under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Please find the information you requested below with reference in the box to your original enquiry for clarity where multiple answers are required.

Details of Your Request

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your local authority:

- (1) The Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012 advise that waste produced by a charity shop selling donated goods which have originated from domestic property (e.g. from private donors) should be counted as household waste, not commercial. With this in mind:
 - (a) do you accept this kind of waste in the event that a local charity shop were to bring it to one of your council's sites?
 - (b) do you levy a charge to dispose of such items of domestic waste in the event that a local charity shop were to bring them to one of your civic amenities sites?
- (2) If your answer to (1 b) is yes, please provide details of your charging scheme, including any different rates of charges for different categories of waste (for example WEEE items) and any plans to change your charging policies in the future.
- (3) Do you host any charity shops at your civic amenities sites, and if so how many?
- (4) How many charity shops are you aware of operating within your local authority area?
- (5) Under the system of business rates relief in England and Wales, local authorities have discretionary powers to grant additional rate relief of up to 20 per cent to charity shops within their area. To how many of the above charity shops do you:
 - (a) grant the full 20 per cent rate relief discount,
 - (b) grant some discretionary rate relief to, but not the full 20 per cent,
 - (c) not grant any additional discretionary rate relief?
- (6) Under what criteria would you grant additional discretionary rate relief to charity shops in your area, and do you have any plans to reform these policies in the future?
- (7) How many textile recycling banks does you directly manage within your local authority area and what is the average annual income generated by these banks?
- (8) How much would your local authority charge a charity for a licence to operate a textile recycling bank in your area?

The response to your request as follows:

The civic amenity sites are operated by the Staffs County Council not the Borough Council, if not done so, please direct this part of your request by email to the following address:

foi@Staffordshire.gov.uk

Or alternatively by post to:

Information Governance Unit
Staffordshire County Council
Wedgwood Building - Block A
Tipping Street
Stafford
ST16 2DH

Q4) 15

Q5) a None, b None, c 15

Q6) Council guidelines advise against awarding Disc relief to charity shops. No plans to change this guidance in the future

Q7) Please see attached PDF - For the Textile banks on TBC Land – we have historically allowed charity textile bring sites, however where we identify bring sites that are without permission on our land we will remove. We received no income from these charity recycling bring sites.

Q8) These are dealt with on a case by case basis, as the request may not be on TBC Land.

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Tamworth Borough Council,
Marmion House,

Lichfield Street,
Tamworth,
B79 7BZ

Details of Tamworth Borough Council's internal review and complaints procedure are attached, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Hesketh
Project and Information Coordinator