

FOI Ref

**10281**

Response sent

**21 Feb 22**

**(CCC) Chief Data Officers**

Please may you provide me with responses to the following questions:

1. Do you currently employ a Chief Data Officer in your Local Authority? (if yes go to Q2, if no go to Q5)

2. Is this person male / female?

3. If yes, What is the salary range for this post?

4. Who does the Chief Data Officer report to?

5. If no, Is this something you will be considering in the next 3 years?

6. Do you believe the demand for data insight and analysis has increased in your Local Authority since the start of the Covid Pandemic?

Significant Increase

Increased

Remained the same

Decreased

Significant Decrease

7. Do you believe the demand for data insight and analysis within your organisation is currently at its highest level?

Yes

No

8. Please complete the table below relating to the number of enquiries for all Council services received via the following methods for the period 1st April – 31st March, Financial years:

2017-2018:

Website / Webform

Mobile App

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Telephone / Call-centre

2019-2020:

Website / Webform

Mobile App

Telephone / Call-centre

2020-2021:

Website / Webform

Mobile App

Telephone / Call-centre

2021-to date:

Website / Webform

Mobile App

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9. What is the job title of the person responsible for data governance in your local authority?

10. What is the job title of the person responsible for the data strategy in your local authority?

11. Do you agree/disagree with the statement "Data is the local authorities most valuable asset"?

Agree

Disagree

12. Do you agree/disagree with the statement "The speed of being able to carry out data analysis will become more important over the next 18 months?"

Agree

Disagree

### **Response:**

Thank you for your information request above, which we have dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). We can confirm that we do hold information relevant to your request, however, we do find that some exemptions do apply and that some of your queries appear to be commercially orientated and we have grouped our responses together below:

The Freedom of Information Act exists to allow access to publicly held information, to promote open, accountable local government and to develop increased trust in government by ensuring transparent ways of working. However, information

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The Freedom of Information Act exists to allow access to publicly held information, to promote open, accountable local government and to develop increased trust in government by ensuring transparent ways of working. However, information requests should be clearly within the wider public interest and where this wider public interest is not clear or where the request is of a commercial nature, the council may consider the request vexatious, which means we are not obliged to respond.

<http://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKUT/AAC/2013/440.html>

In this judgement Judge Wikeley indicates in paragraphs 35 and 38 that improper use of FOI [such as no public interest] is a valid consideration to make when considering if a request is vexatious. Using the Freedom of Information Act to gain a commercial advantage or seek opportunity over another can be included within this definition. It would be considered an abuse of a statutory process that is designed to promote open accountable local government, not provide commercial organisations with leads into organisations to promote or sell goods or services. Of course a public body is not always aware of some wider public interests in a particular area and we would like to seek clarification to be able to fully assess any possible public interest before fully considering your request.

You are invited to respond to assist our assessment of your request regarding your following questions:

We query what the wider public interest is in knowing the gender identified by the occupant of a specific post, we consider this personal data and exempt under s40 – Personal data – as an absolute exemption we decline to answer:

2. Is this person male / female?

The following are not considered to be appropriate for consideration under FOI as you appear to be seeking opinion and therefore the creation of new material. FOI can only be used to request information already in existence, we are unable to assist you with these queries.

5. If no, is this something you will be considering in the next 3 years?

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11. Do you agree/disagree with the statement "Data is the local authorities most valuable asset"?

Agree

Disagree

12. Do you agree/disagree with the statement "The speed of being able to carry out data analysis will become more important over the next 18 months?"

Agree

Disagree

Chief Data Officers in Local Authorities

We are able to assist you with the following:

1. Do you currently employ a Chief Data Officer in your Local Authority? (if yes go to Q2, if no go to Q5) YES – Information Governance Manager & Data Protection Officer

3. If yes, what is the salary range for this post? Grade I 51,439 - 57,893

4. Who does the Chief Data Officer report to? - the Information Governance Manger and Data Protection Officer currently reports to the Acting Deputy Head of 3C ICT, see link: [Homepage of 3C Shared Services - 3CSharedServices.org](http://Homepage of 3C Shared Services - 3CSharedServices.org)

8. Please complete the table below relating to the number of enquiries for all Council services received via the following methods for the period 1st April – 31st March, Financial years:

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Mobile App

Telephone / Call-centre

2021-to date:

Website / Webform

Mobile App

Telephone / Call-centre

Whilst we do not collate the information in this way, we are able to provide you with the following:

We don't have any mobile apps.

For the website, we can provide data on number of sessions on the website rather than enquiries for council services.

**Website sessions:**

- 2017/18: Information not held
- 2018/19: Information not held
- 2019/20: 599,274 (28 November 2019 onwards)
- 2020/21: 1,552,125
- 2021/22: 1,531,308 (up to and including 14 February 2022)

**IEG4 eform submissions:**

- 2017/18: Information not held
- 2018/19: 7,988
- 2019/20: 11,500
- 2020/21: 14,586
- 2021/22: 14,850 (up to and including 17 February 2022)

9. What is the job title of the person responsible for data governance in your local authority? CCC – Strategic Director

10. What is the job title of the person responsible for the data strategy in your local authority? CCC – Assistant chief executive

11. Do you agree/disagree with the statement "Data is the local authorities most valuable asset"?

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We aim to provide a high-quality service to you and hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Further queries on this matter should be directed to [foi@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:foi@cambridge.gov.uk)