

Neighbourhoods

Director
Mark Widdup

Property, Highways and Facilities Management

Name: Mr Lee Jefferson

Email: request-363695-6bec9e37@whatdotheyknow.com

Floor 2, No.1 Riverside,
Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU

Web Site: www.rochdale.gov.uk

Our Ref. FOI 12350

Date: 04 November 2016

Dear Mr Jefferson

Further to your Freedom of Information Request which dated 08 October 2016, please see our below response to your queries:

Question:

Please kindly provide a list of council-run buildings (including Libraries, Day Care Centres, Community Centres, Schools and Administrative bases) which your Council has had to close since 2010. Please provide the name of the buildings and the postcodes of the buildings.

Such closures would include those where people have to seek the same type of service from a different location* which already exists (or maybe there is no alternative available). * If there are any scenarios where a service provision is not closed but relocated across the road to another council building I don't require information on that.

I require the list to include buildings closed and disposed plus buildings that are re-let following service closures.

I'm only interested however in the buildings in which you provided a service that you were forced to close due to Government cuts to your budget making it no longer financially viable for you to keep such buildings open.

The reason why I require this information is to get a picture of the effect of any Government cuts to council budgets which in turn is forcing councils to find ways to make savings.

In order to assist the request here is the relevant information from other councils. Please note however I require the postcode besides the name of the buildings if possible:

Example 1 Lancashire Council (pdf file) <http://freepdfhosting.com/4f28e56539.pdf>

Example 2 Lincolnshire Council (excel file) <https://d.pr/14FZr>

Example 3 Oxfordshire Council (pdf file) <http://freepdfhosting.com/fded63aff2.pdf>

Example 4 Herefordshire Council (pdf file) <http://freepdfhosting.com/17818cf345.pdf>

Example 5 Suffolk Council (excel file) <https://d.pr/117FU>

Example 6 Milton Keynes Council (pdf file) <http://freepdfhosting.com/6c6384a655.pdf>

Response:

The council has not had to close any buildings. We are obliged to dispose of assets we no longer require but we have not had to close any.

Details can be found in the Council's Asset Strategy which is available on the Council's website

The Council closed 27 locations to move staff into Number One Riverside (its new administrative centre) saving millions and supporting the regeneration of the town centre

The Council has not closed any libraries or children's centres.

We feel that we have fulfilled your Freedom of Information request. However, if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to make a complaint or appeal against any decision we have made in response to your request you should write in the first instance to:

Information Governance Unit
Floor 2
Number One Riverside
Smith Street
Rochdale
OL16 1XU
Email: foi@rochdale.gov.uk

Should you further disagree with the decision following the appeal you may wish to contact the Office of the Information Commissioner:

Office of the Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Fax: 01625 524510

Yours Sincerely

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