

**FOI Release**  
***Information released under the Freedom of Information Act***

**Title:** Patents by postcode

**Date of release:** 7 June 2013

**Information request:**

I would like to obtain a list by postcode of all patents issued from 1970 to 2000 where the postcode of the applicant is within the West Midlands, East Midlands, Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire

Can the list be provided in excel format including the patent number, a summary of the patent and the name of the applicant and the applicant's postcode.

**Information released:**

The Intellectual Property Office does not hold and cannot compile a list of all that you require.

We do hold publication data from between 1995 and 2000, but not specifically for the areas you have indicated, i.e. you would have to do a considerable amount of cross checking to arrive at a list containing information relevant to each or all of the locations. The cost of our preparing such a list for you would be likely to exceed the appropriate limit.

I should explain that section 12 of the FOI Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We estimate that it would take us in excess of 3.5 working days to determine appropriate material and locate, retrieve and extract the information in reference to your request.

Furthermore, we cannot provide you with summaries of patents, only IPC classification codes.