



Pubs Code Adjudicator

Office of the Pubs Code Adjudicator
Lower Ground
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4AJ

Email: office@pca.gsi.gov.uk

29 November 2017

Dear XXX

Thank you for your email, received on 8 November 2017, in which you requested information from the office of the Pubs Code Adjudicator (PCA) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 entitles you to:

- know whether the information you have requested is held by the PCA; and
- be provided with that information, subject to any exemptions in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which may apply.

You have requested the following information:

Can you please supply us with a list of the questions and or answer options (i.e. multiple choice options) that are being asked [in the PCA tenant survey].

I can confirm that the office of the PCA does hold information relevant to your request; however, it is exempt from disclosure under section 22(1) of the Act because:

- the information is held with a view to its publication at some future date; and
- the information was already held with a view to such publication at the time of your request was received; and
- it is reasonable in all circumstances that the information should be withheld until that future date.

The PCA considers that early release of the requested information could, either intentionally or unintentionally, influence tenant survey respondents and, as a consequence, potentially impact upon PCA policy and operational decisions made in response to the survey's findings.

The PCA has carefully considered whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing it ahead of the publication date. The PCA recognises the public interest in transparency, which assists people in understanding the role of the Pubs Code since it came into force. However, it is possible that survey respondents may be influenced as a result of being aware of questions in advance, putting at considerable risk the reliability of the survey outputs and, therefore, the value for money in



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conducting the survey. The PCA has therefore concluded that the public interest favours withholding the information until its intended publication.

As outlined on the PCA website, the results of the research, including the information you have requested, will be published in the New Year - www.gov.uk/pca

If you do not believe that the office of the PCA has provided an appropriate response to your request, as set out above, you are entitled to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request and should be made in writing, quoting the above reference, to office@pca.gsi.gov.uk or:

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If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.