



Pubs Code Adjudicator

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

Email: office@pubscodeadjudicator.gov.uk

23 October 2020

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Thank you for your email, received on 02 October 2020, 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:

- *Under the Freedom of Information request can you please advise what are the most breached regulations since July 2016:*
- *Can you indicate the Regulation number and the frequency/number of times breached.*

We regret that we are unable to respond to your request because it would exceed the cost limit set out by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Act. Section 12 of the 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 a public authority such as the PCA is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We consider your request would be over the statutory limit because in order to retrieve all the information we might hold within scope of your request, we would need to search through and also analyse a very large quantity of information, including individual arbitration cases, POB compliance reports, and correspondence relating to enquires and intelligence from industry stakeholders received by the PCA office from July 2016 to date. You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope, for example by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required.

If you would like further information regarding the cost limit and how it is applied please refer to the [Freedom of Information \(Appropriate Limit and Fees\) Regulations 2004](#).



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You might find it helpful to note that the PCA has recently fined Star Pubs and Bars £2 million after finding the company seriously and repeatedly breached the Pubs Code. Further information about the breaches can be found [here](#). The PCA also publish awards made in statutory arbitrations, which contain information about breaches of the Pubs Code, you can view these [here](#).

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@pubscodeadjudicator.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.

Yours sincerely,

