

Request 9743 Edelweiss

Given that the 'Acoustic Specialists' report was the main driver for the delay rectifying the noise levels and the delay in adhering to the noise abatement order, has the council been provided a copy of the report and as it is in the public interest may a copy be made available to the residents involved?

Response

We can confirm that the Council does hold information relevant to your request

Any disclosure of information under Freedom of Information must be considered to be to the wider public domain. The information you are requesting concerns, and is part of a current and ongoing investigation being conducted by the Environmental Health team and as such we consider exempt from disclosure under Section 30(1)(a) – Investigations and proceedings conducted by local authorities – Section 30 is not an absolute exemption and a public interest test must be applied.

Whilst it is in the public interest to show transparency in the work a local authority does, it is not in the public interest to release information that may place an investigation at risk that a local authority has a statutory duty to undertake. There is a strong public interest in the organisation having space and time to ensure its investigations are carried out appropriately and thoroughly. As the investigation may lead to a decision by the local authority to instigate criminal proceedings it is not in the public interest to disclose any material that may jeopardise that process.