[redacted]

From: FOI
Sent: 01 March 2023 11:01
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI 012-23 - Response

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI-012-23

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 10 February 2023.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is shown below followed by our response.

I would like the following information for the most recent figures as of 10th February 2023:

- *The number of Voter Authority Certificates requested, broken down per local authority if possible*
- *The number of Voter Authority Certificates issued, broken down per local authority if possible*
- *The cost to the Cabinet Office of processing an individual VAC and the cost to the Cabinet Office of the combined requests broken down per local authority*
- *Any reasons given for not issuing a VAC after one being requested*

Our response is as follows:

We do not hold the information you have requested.

The Commission does not manage the Voter Authority Certificate (VAC) application and issuing process. VACs are issued by Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) in each local authority area. The online application portal is managed by the UK Government and a publicly available dashboard provides some data on applications: https://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk/performance.

The Commission will be collecting data on VACs issued from EROs after the May 2023 local elections in England. This data will be used to inform our report on the elections and will be published on our website alongside the report.

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority. If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/freedom-information/make-a-freedom-information-request.

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely

Information Officer
FOI@electoralcommission.org.uk

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk