

From: [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI-17-1816 - Corporate Gazetteer
Date: 22 December 2017 13:13:51
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your information request of 27 November 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

Please provide a copy of the council's Corporate Address Gazetteer in geojson format, with the postcodes removed in order to comply with Royal Mail copyright.

Aberdeen City Council creates and maintains a Corporate Address Gazetteer that captures and stores street names and numbering and property addresses. The CAG is a definitive database of address information that includes geographic location for individual properties and aims for the sharing and consistent use of address information. The CAG is held by ACC and all local authorities in Scotland feed similar CAG information into the national address gazetteer (One Scotland Gazetteer). Managing the CAG is an ongoing process and a key component of the council's wider modernisation agenda.

The information requested comprises the CAG in a format (geojson) which includes spatial information, i.e. coordinates. The coordinates have been captured using Ordnance Survey mapping / addressing so this would retain Ordnance Survey Intellectual Property Rights, and ACC would not be allowed to release this information without explicit authorisation from Ordnance Survey.

The coordinates are available through other means, by contacting Ordnance Survey and seeking commercial licensing.

Aberdeen City Council considers that the release of such coordinate information would substantially prejudice the commercial interests of Ordnance Survey, and hence would be exempt from disclosure under section 33(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA). Such prejudice would arise from the fact that, even if the information were released with the appropriate copyright/database right acknowledgement, it would be difficult to monitor the subsequent use of the address data, and there would be considerable costs incurred by Ordnance Survey in monitoring use and taking enforcement action against infringers.

Even if coordinates and post codes are removed ACC still use licensed Ordnance Survey products to create house names, numbers and street names meaning the exemption applies to the addresses as well.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **Corporate Address Gazetteer** as it is exempt from disclosure. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 33(1)(b) – Commercial Interests - of the FOISA.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Grant Webster
Information Compliance Officer

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

ACC handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

Information Compliance Team
Customer Service
Corporate Governance
Aberdeen City Council
3rd Floor North
Business Hub 17
Marischal College
Broad Street
ABERDEEN AB10 1AQ

foienquiries@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Tel 03000 200 292

*03000 numbers are free to call if you have 'free minutes' included in your mobile call plan.
Calls from BT landlines will be charged at the local call rate of 10.24p per minute (the same as 01224s).

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