

Our Ref: **IR-2627-276**

10 August 2026

By Email to:
[ayresy911@hotmail.co.uk]

Dear Mr Ayres

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information received on 27 July 2026 and processed under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Council has considered your request for information and the response is enclosed.

If you are unhappy with the response, you have received in relation to your request you may ask for an internal review. A request for internal review should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Details of Council's internal review process can be found on the website via the following link: [Freedom Of Information - Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council \(armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk\)](http://FreedomOfInformation-ArmaghCityBanbridgeandCraigavonBoroughCouncil.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk)

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office via its complaints portal: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints.

Contact by post should be made as follows:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

The Commissioner's Office will then undertake an independent review.

Yours sincerely

Orl  gh McOscar
Information Governance Compliance Officer

Your Request and Council Response:

“Please provide the following recorded information:

A copy of the council's current organisational structure chart, or equivalent document showing the council's directorates, departments and principal service areas.

A list of the council's departments or service areas together with the job title responsible for each (where recorded).

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives a general right of access to recorded information held by a public authority. If the information sought is contained in a record, which is publicly available, the Act enables the public authority to apply the Section 21 exemption – ‘Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means’.

The information requested is publicly available to view by following the link below:

<https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Organisational-Management-Structure-April-2025.pdf>

Therefore, Council’s formal response, in line with Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, is that this information is in the public domain and reasonably accessible via the link provided.

Section 21 is an absolute exemption, which means there is no requirement to carry out a public interest test.

A list of organisations that provide services on behalf of the council, under contract with the council, through partnership arrangements, or via arm's-length bodies. This includes, where applicable:

Housing Associations or Registered Providers;

Arm's-Length Management Organisations (ALMOs);

Local Authority Trading Companies;

Joint ventures;

Shared service organisations;

Charities delivering council services;

Private contractors delivering public services on behalf of the council.

For each organisation identified in Question 3, please provide, where recorded:

The organisation's name;

The service(s) it delivers;

The council department responsible for managing the relationship;

The type of organisation (for example, council-owned company, housing association, contractor, charity, public body, etc.).

For each organisation identified in Question 3, please provide, where recorded:

***The general public contact email address;
Any published Freedom of Information contact email address;
Any Information Governance contact email address;
Any dedicated email address or online portal used for requests for recorded information.
Please provide any directory, register or document identifying separate contact routes
used by council departments or partner organisations for:
Freedom of Information requests;
Environmental Information Regulations requests;
Subject Access Requests;
Information Governance enquiries.***

Having considered your request above, Council can advise that we consider it to be too broad. We do not have a central register of all organisations that provide services on behalf of the Council, under contract with Council, through partnership arrangements, or via arm's-length bodies. Therefore, in order to find out if any information is held that would allow us to answer your request, a manual search of our records is required.

Each of Council's 19 departments would need to manually search their records to ascertain a list of all organisations that provide services on behalf of or under contract with Council. Depending on the size of the department, number of records, and how the records are held, this may involve multiple officers manually searching records. Officers would need to review their departmental records firstly to determine what information is held in relation to the request. This information would then need to be extracted and collated to determine if it is relevant to your request.

Due to the volume of records and officer(s) time required to search, extract and review the records, the request is considered to place a huge burden on Council resources.

Under the legislation, we can refuse to respond to a request when we estimate that it will exceed the appropriate limit to find out if we hold the information requested. This exemption is called Section 12 – 'Requests where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit'.

The Act states that we should refuse a request under Section 12 when the time spent searching for information would place a significant burden on our resources and impact on our day-to-day duties. Therefore, having considered the burden on departments in relation to the process of searching for any data held, extracting and reviewing the data, we are refusing your above request under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

When we refuse a request, we are required under Section 16 of the Act to offer you advice and assistance to help you make a new, refined request which does not exceed the appropriate limit. However, on this occasion, given the way in which Council holds the information, the process of retrieving it would remain the same. Therefore, we cannot offer you any meaningful advice or assistance that would allow us to provide you with information within the appropriate limit regarding a list of organisations that provide services on behalf of Council, under contract with Council, through partnership arrangements, or via arm's-length bodies.

Please provide any register, directory or document identifying which organisations hold information on behalf of the council in connection with outsourced or commissioned services.

Dealing with requests under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) can only extend to the public authority holding recorded information that will allow them to answer the query submitted.

Council has searched its records and has not located any that holds information that would enable it to provide an answer. Therefore, our formal response under FOIA is that we do not hold the information described in your request.

However, Council would like to add the following commentary:

Council do not hold one document such as a register, directory or document identifying which organisations hold information on behalf of Council in connection with outsourced or commissioned services.

Please provide any existing list, register or directory of Information Asset Owners, Information Owners, Data Owners or equivalent responsible roles maintained by the council.

Dealing with requests under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) can only extend to the public authority holding recorded information that will allow them to answer the query submitted.

Council has searched its records and has not located any that holds information that would enable it to provide an answer. Therefore, our formal response under FOIA is that we do not hold the information described in your request.

However, Council would like to add the following commentary:

Council do not hold a list, register or directory of Information Asset Owners, Information Owners or Data Owners. Council's Information Asset Owners are the Head of Departments, please refer to the Organisational Structure Chart for details.