

Date Provided: 20 March 2019

Taxi Knowledge Test

Ref: EFOI / 8762

Information Request

Under the provisions of FOI legislation can you please provide a full list of questions and answers on your Eastbourne taxi knowledge test this includes;

- a) Locations on places of interest questions and answers*
 - b) Questions on policy and law*
 - c) Highway code questions and answers*
 - d) Road signs questions and answers*
 - e) Numeracy questions and answers*
 - f) English comprehension questions and answers*
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Response by Eastbourne Borough Council

I have carefully reviewed your request and investigated whether there is any information disclosable to you. Unfortunately, the council is not able to give you the information because it considers it is exempt from disclosure under Section 36 (Prejudice to effective conduct of public affairs) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The council has a signed copy of the opinion of a 'qualified person' (Peter Finnis, Assistant Director for Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer) in respect of using the Section 36 exemption.

This exemption is subject to the public interest test. Please see below the points the council considered when deciding whether the public interest in non-disclosure outweighed the public interest in disclosure.

For disclosure

There is public interest in openness and transparency, which maintains public confidence in decision making.

Against disclosure

Disclosure would defeat the object of having such a test in the first place. Tests are designed to test an individual's knowledge and if they

know the answers in advance it would not be possible to accurately judge their suitability for the job.

Disclosure might enable an individual to only learn part of the information they need to in order to become a taxi driver, therefore making them less capable.

Disclosure would undermine the work of existing taxi drivers who have passed the test previously.

Disclosure would be unfair to other applicants.

Disclosure of one test would be likely to set a precedent regarding the disclosure of other tests.

If the questions and answers to a taxi knowledge test were made public to one person they would be likely to be made public to everyone.

The council is satisfied that in the above case the arguments for maintaining the exemption outweigh the public interest of disclosure.