

Response to Request for Information

Reference: 1095
Date: 22 June 2011
Type of request Freedom of Information Request

Times and dates of issues and returns at Cambridge Central Library

I would like to request information about the time of day that items are issued (i.e. checked out) and returned at Cambridge Central Library. I am requesting this information for the period since the library reopened in September 2009 after its refurbishment, up to the present. I understand that the Central Library has issued over a million items in this period, so I am asking for this information to be provided in one of a number of forms, depending on what can conveniently be produced by the library management system.

- 1) Ideally, I would like a document simply listing the date and time of each issue in the period since September 2009; I do not require any other information about the items issued, such as their type or title, just the date and time at which each issue occurred.
- 2) If the information in 1) is not held or cannot be produced within the limits for handling an FOI request, then instead I would like a list of the total number of items issued within each one-hour period that the library has been open since September 2009.
- 3) Failing that, I would like a list of the number of items issued within each hour of each day of the week, during the period since September 2009.

Similarly, I would like the same information for returns. I would prefer the information to be supplied as an Excel spreadsheet or a plain text file, by email.

Please see the attached document, APP1, for information regarding issues and APP2 for information about returns. Please note the following:

- 1 - The lists are text files and show the date and time of each transaction, one per line, in the format below. The letter prefix can be ignored, following that is the date and time in ISO format - 3rd Oct 2009 15:42 in the above example - the rest of the string can be ignored.

E200910031542511939R

- 2 - Some transactions will have been part of automated batch processes run by staff for stock processing (hence why there are significantly higher numbers of returns than issues for one) and there is no way to disaggregate these from the figures. Often these will have been run outside of library opening hours

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