

## East Lothian Council

**EIR Ref: 2018/257(482694)**

*I would like to request information relating to planning department processes and resources, specifically:*

- ***What was the average time for approval of a residential planning application in each of the years 2008-2017?***

East Lothian Council (ELC) does not record this information. In view of this, under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004, I must formally advise you that ELC has been unable to comply with your request as the information you require is not held.

The only "average time for approval" data is published by the Scottish Government's website and a link to the relevant page of the SG website is provided for your convenience:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Planning/Publications>

- ***What was the average time for approval of an affordable housing planning application in each of the years 2008-2017?***

Please refer to the first bullet point above.

- ***What was the average time for approval of a commercial planning application in each of the years 2008-2017?***

Please refer to the first bullet point above.

- ***What was the average time for approval of an industrial planning application in each of the years 2008-2017?***

Please refer to the first bullet point above.

- ***What was the average time for approval of an amendment to a planning application in each of the years 2008-2017?***

Please refer to the first bullet point above.

- ***What is the overall budget for the planning department for 2017/18?***

This information is available in ELC's budget papers which are published on our website. This means that, for the purposes of this legislation, this part of your request is excepted under Regulation 6(1)(b) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 as the information is already publicly available and easily accessible in another form or format. We have, however, provided a link to the relevant page for your convenience:

<http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/9319/2015-2018-budget-general-services>

## East Lothian Council

EIR Ref: 2018/257(482694)

- ***What was the planning department budget in the years from 2007/08 to 2016/17?***

Please refer to the bullet point above.

- ***How many staff are currently employed to process and approve planning applications?***

The Planning Delivery team of the Planning Service currently has 9 FTE

- ***How many staff have been employed to process and approve planning applications in each of the last ten years?***

2007 - 2008 – 8.8 FTE  
2008 - 2009 – 9.8 FTE  
2009 - 2010 – 9.8 FTE  
2010 - 2011 – 9.8 FTE  
2011 - 2012 – 8.8 FTE  
2012 - 2013 – 9.8 FTE  
2013 - 2014 – 8.8 FTE  
2014 - 2015 – 9.8 FTE  
2015 - 2016 - 9.6 FTE  
2016 - 2017 – 9.46 FTE

NB: The response to this request has been provided as accurately as possible, however, Council reorganisation and job redefinition has made it difficult to identify all of those employed in the Planning function over such a long timeframe.