

19 November 2019

Our Ref: FOI6837

Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act"), dated 22 October 2019, for the following information:

"I am seeking information on the FCA's sensitive business names team. I would like to know:

- How many applications the team has received in 2019*
- How many of these applications were approve and how many were rejected*
- How many applications the team received in 2018*
- How many of these applications were approve and how many were rejected*
- How many applications the team received in 2017*
- How many of these applications were approve and how many were rejected"*

Before addressing the specific points of your request, I feel it is important to clarify that it is not within the remit of the FCA to "approve" or "reject" applications. The FCA can provide a 'view' only - and 'object' or 'not object' - to the use of a sensitive word in a business name. The decision as to whether or not a sensitive business name may be used is taken by a Secretary of State as the ultimate decision-maker. They will, however, take our view into consideration.

Turning now to your request, and on the basis of the clarification provided, I can confirm that we hold the information you are seeking, as set out below:

	2017	2018	2019*
Received	1047	1073	920
Non-objection	733	828	663
Objection	183	119	97
Other (including withdrawal & no-view required)	131	126	160

***the information contained within the table is deemed accurate on date of publication as at 29 October 2019.**

If you are unhappy with the decision made in relation to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to exercise this right you should contact us within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Telephone: 01625 545 700. Website: www.ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Information Disclosure Team