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| **Agenda item:** | **8** |
| **Attachment:** | **C** |

**HRA BOARD COVER SHEET**

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| **Date of Meeting:** | 20/07/2016 |

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| **Title of Paper:** | Summary of Freedom of Information requests 2015/16 |
| **Purpose of Paper:** | To provide the Board with an overview of Freedom of Information requests received during the period 01 April 2015 – 31 March 2016. |
| **Reason for Submission:** | For information |
| **Details:** | Please see the FOI register 2015/16 and comparison with last year.  The pie chart shows the highest proportion of FOIs received for 2015/16 relate to the HRA’s IT provision and IT contracts. Other contracts are also frequently requested – e.g. for estates.  The HRA currently meets its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act publication scheme requirements however we are in the process of considering if there are further proactive measures to be taken to make more information available on the HRA website and thus reduce the time taken to respond to FOI requests. This would include the publication of certain previous FOI requests relating to IT or the publication of certain contract information. This option however may not be suitable for all FOI requests – e.g. publication of a REC application on the website may not be considered appropriate. |
| **Suitable for wider circulation?** | Yes – to be published following Board |
| **Time required for item:** | **5** |

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| **Recommendation / Proposed Actions:** | **To approve** | |  |
| **For information / to Note** | | **X** |
| **For discussion** | |  |
| **Comments** |  | |

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| **Name:** | Stephen Tebbutt |
| **Job Title:** | Head of Corporate Governance |
| **Date:** | 07/07/2016 |

**Comparison of FOIs**

* A total of 54 FOI requests were received in 2015/16. This is a slight decrease in comparison with 2014/15.

* For 2015/16 the greatest number of FOI requests received related to IT (21) (IT contracts, IT services, IT staff etc). This is an increase from 2014/15 when 8 IT requests were received.
* 10 requests relating to RECs were received for 2015/16 in comparison with 29 in 2014/15. 2 requests relating to CAG and 1 relating to TOPS were also received in 2015/16. The high proportion of requests relating to RECs in 2014/15 in comparison with 2015/16 was largely due to multiple repeated requests relating to a particular REC application.
* For both years ‘Other’ (generally information not held by the HRA) received a number of requests (5 for 2014/15 and 4 for 2015/16).