**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000/ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS 2004**

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council’s response to your questions is shown below. The Council [holds / does not hold] the information.

**You asked:**

**Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information related to the enforcement of the Children and Families Act 2014, as amended by The Nicotine Inhaling Products (Age of Sale and Proxy Purchasing) Regulations 2015.**

**Specifically, please provide me with:**

**1. The number of individuals who have been prosecuted in the last 12 months within your organisation’s jurisdiction for the sale of nicotine inhaling products (sometimes known as “e-cigarettes”, “vapes”, or “vapour products”) to individuals aged under 18, due to investigations conducted by Leicester City Council.**

Nil.

**2. The number of businesses and sole traders subject to any penalty in the last 12 months (including but not limited to fine, opening restrictions, removal of premises license) for the sale of nicotine inhaling products (sometimes known as “e-cigarettes”, “vapes”, or “vapour products”) to individuals aged under 18, due to investigations conducted by Leicester City Council.**

Nil. We have seized circa 35,000 non-compliant vapes, of which 1,500 have been signed over for destruction. 33,500 of the units seized are part of an ongoing investigation. Please note however, that all seizures made by LCC are not relevant to The Nicotine Inhaling Products (Age of Proxy Purchasing) Regulations 2015.

**3. The number of shops, and other places of business (including but not limited to market stalls, ‘car-boot sales’ and other point of sale locations) that council employees have visited in the last 12 months for the purposes of detection and disruption of the sale of nicotine inhaling products to individuals aged under 18.**

Approximately 1,400 letters regarding under age sales, including proxy purchasing and non-compliant vapes have been sent out by LCC. Intelligence led visits were made to 2 specialist vape supplies premises and 5 visits to other premises where vapes were sold.

**4. The number of trading standard officers employed by the council whose job description, roles and responsibilities, entail the investigation, detection, and disruption of the sale of nicotine inhaling products to individuals aged under 18 and/or the removal of illicit products from retailers.**

All officers in the service (5.5 officers FTE) are generic and can be required to enforce this legislation.

You may re-use the information under an [Open Government Licence](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/2/).

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, please write, explaining your grounds of appeal, to:

**Internal Review**

**Information Governance & Risk**

**Email:** **info.requests@leicester.gov.uk**