

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

### **You asked:**

**The Richard III dig is very exciting. Does the Council hold any reports or documents or correspondence relating to the dig, and the findings so far at the dig, that they can publish and share with us please?**

### **ANSWER**

As you may be aware, an amount of information about the Richard III dig has already been released where possible, e.g. <http://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council-services/lc/storyofleicester/cityheritage/richardthird/> .

At this time the further information that you have requested is exempt from release under Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act – Information provided in confidence & Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act – Commercial interests. Originally information was in the commercial interest of a screen writer and a television production company. The rights have now been bought by Channel 4. Commercial property interests also now have to be taken into account. Much of the information was submitted in confidence as part of this agreement and it would not be in the interest of the Council to breach that agreement and face any legal proceedings for breach of confidentiality.

Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act applies to some of the Information intended for future publication. As you may be aware there is a large national media interest in the discovery of the site and body. The Council intends to publish as much as possible on its website after the conclusion of the documentary.

Where information relates to the dig and location of the body which was found, the Environmental Information Regulations will also apply. Regulation 12 (4) (d) of the Environmental Information Regulations applies where the request relates to material that is still being completed, e.g. unfinished documents including drafts, or incomplete data. Until we have the outcome of the DNA test, and the final resting place of the body is decided (if it is indeed Richard) this exemption applies during this time.

The following exceptions also apply under EIR at this time for the reasons mentioned above.

Regulation 12 (4) (e) of the Environmental Information Regulations - The request involves the disclosure of internal communications  
Regulation 12 (5) (e) of the Environmental Information Regulations - Confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where such confidentiality is provided by law to protect a legitimate economic interest

Regulation 12 (5) (f) of the Environmental Information Regulations - The interests of the person who provided the information

I am sorry that we feel that we cannot release any further information at this time. We appreciate how exciting the discovery is. We are however at a delicate stage in the process of identifying if the body is Richard III and finding a final resting place for him. We will of course release all that we can after the outcome is finalised and the Channel 4 documentary has been aired.

The legislation allows you to use the information supplied for your own personal use. Please be aware that any commercial or other use, for example publication, sale, or redistribution may be a breach of copyright under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 as amended unless you obtain the copyright holder's prior permission.

Not all the information that is supplied which is covered by copyright will be the Council's copyright, for example it may be the copyright of a government department or another Council. You should seek either the Council's consent or their consent as appropriate. The Council is willing to advise you of any such potential issues on request. In order to make a request to re-use the information please contact the Information Governance Manager using the details below.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

**Information Governance Manager**  
**Information and Support**  
**Leicester City Council**  
**FREEPOST (LE985/33)**  
**New Walk Centre**  
**LEICESTER LE1 6ZG**

e-mail: [info.requests@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:info.requests@leicester.gov.uk)

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

**Information Commissioner's Office**  
**Wycliffe House**  
**Water Lane**  
**Wilmslow SK9 5AF**  
**Telephone: 01625 545 700**

[www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider appeals or complaints until the internal appeals and complaints processes of the public authority which is answering the request have been exhausted. You are therefore advised to complain or appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.