

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:

What percentage of your local authority's total procurement budget is spent on goods and services from suppliers and providers in the local authority area?

ANSWER:

46% is in the Leicester authority area.

What percentage of your local authority's total procurement budget is spent on goods and services from suppliers and providers based out of the local authority?

54% is non-local.

Do you use social value clauses in your procurement contracts? If so, in what percentage of contracts do you use social value clauses?

Yes. Any procurement activity coming through the central procurement team is considered for Social Value, which Leicester City has been promoting for some time. It is not always relevant to apply clauses, and a record is not kept. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

Do you believe that the Social Value Act will make it easier for you to take into consideration the wider social and economic benefits of contracts when awarding tenders?

Freedom of Information is to access information actually held and the above question is not asking for information we hold. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

Has your local authority ever faced legal action for a claimed breach of EU procurement laws?

Yes

Do you take into account issues such as whether suppliers pay the Living Wage and/or offer other non-statutory benefits to employees?

Leicester City is keen to promote well-being for all and often asks tenderers for information about what benefits they have in place for their employees.

Do you take into account ethical procurement issues such as 'Fairtrade' status or Labour rights when procuring goods initially produced in developing countries?

Yes, Leicester City has been a keen advocate of 'Fairtrade' and has been promoting Sustainable Procurement via its' Environmental team.

Do you believe central government cuts to Local Government Finance will have a negative upon the ability of your council to take into account wider social value when awarding contracts?

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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 Customer Access
Leicester City Council
FREEPOST (LE985/33)
New Walk Centre
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG
e-mail: 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

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.