

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:

1. How many 'community sports clubs'* does your authority currently grant discretionary rate relief to?

8 Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC), which receive the 80% mandatory relief only.

There are 7 'other sports clubs', which have currently been granted discretionary relief ranging from 30% to 65%

2. What is your authority's current policy (2012/13) for granting discretionary rate relief to 'community sports clubs'?

We always try and encourage the club to register as a CASC for the automatic entitlement to 80% relief. Otherwise we assess based on the following:

"...services are provided that would otherwise be provided by the Council, or which enhance services already provided. Funding, access and membership requirements, social (bar) facilities and use of facilities by other groups (e.g. schools) are relevant. The recommendation is made by the Sports Services Section (within Culture and Neighbourhood Services) based on information provided on an application form to the following questions:

- Does your club/society have a development plan? – if yes, enclose a copy
- Does your club/society have a junior section? – if yes, is it open to boys and/or girls?
- Does the junior section have regular coaching sessions and court/playing time? – if yes, please give details of how this is arranged.
- Does your club/society provide any of the following for disabled people: facilities/coaching/playing opportunities.
- Does your club/society work in partnership with any schools to promote or develop your sports club? – if yes, please state which schools and what you did.
- Does your club/society work in partnership with any other agency to promote and/or develop your sport? – if yes, please list who and the promotional activity undertaken.
- Does your club/society have any qualified sports coaches or assist with the recruitment and training of sports coaches?"

- 3. Is there a monetary or percentage limit on the amount of discretionary rate relief your authority will grant to a single community sports club? If yes, how much is this?**

There is no stipulated maximum (monetary or percentage).

- 4. Does the authority intend to introduce a new policy next year? If so, what will be the new policy for 2013/14?**

No.

- 5. What is your authority's total budget for granting discretionary rate relief in 2012/13 and 2013/14?**

The total discretionary rate relief budget for 2012/13 is £232,900 – same amount for 2013/14. No specific amount is allocated to this particular category.

We would welcome any information or feedback from your research.

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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

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.