

## 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:

**Please could you let me know how many sick days through stress have been taken by your staff in 2012? Please include any time when workers have been signed off through stress.**

**Could you also let me know how many were taken in 2011, 2010, and as far back as the last 10 years where possible?**

### ANSWER:

Please see table below for the information requested.

Financial Year	Overall Working Days lost due to sickness	No of Working Days Lost Due to Stress	% of Stress Days from Total Working Days lost
2007/08	98,462	18,631	19%
2008/09	88,396	15,957	18%
2009/10	91,920	18,431	20%
2010/11	78,070	16,751	21%
2011/12	66,885	15,241	23%
2012/13	65,813	14,807	22%

These figures relate to stress for any reason including work and non-work related. In 2012/13 Leicester City Council employed 7,999 members of staff (Average FTE 6,403). This would equate to approximately 1.7m working days per annum in total.

Some factors that have made an impact on stress sickness are as follows:

- Change in reporting systems to ensure all sickness caused by stress is reported on.
- Major organisational changes and the effect this has on employees.
- Reduction in workforce due to organisation changes and reduced budgets

The organisation takes stress absence seriously and has put in place a number of measures to reduce stress absence, for example:

- All managers now receive training on recognising stress in the workplace.
- We have a contract with a counselling service that is anonymous and all employees can use this service if they wish to, whether they are absent from work or not.

- [Specific training from counselling services at the start of organisational reviews.](#)

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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](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.