

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:

I would like to make a Freedom of Information Act request for information concerning wind farm applications in your local authority since 1 January 2009. I am writing a dissertation on wind turbines and the town planning system for a Masters in Town Planning at Brighton University, and am collecting data from all local authorities. Please provide details of all wind turbine applications submitted, decided, appealed, judicially reviewed, called-in or otherwise formally processed by your planning department between 1 January 2009 and 1 June 2013.

This should include any applications submitted before 1 January 2009 that were decided at committee, appealed, judicially reviewed or otherwise decided after that date and also those submitted but not yet decided as of June 1 2013. If applicable, please also provide details of any large scale wind schemes within your local authority that were determined by the Secretary of State as major infrastructure in the same period. Please indicate none if applicable. For each application please provide as appropriate:

- Application reference number**
- Site Name**
- Site location (address, post code and/or grid reference)**
- Applicant name**
- Number of turbines**
- Total MW if known**
- Date submitted**
- Officer recommendation (grant/refuse)**
- Number of objection letters received (including number of individual letters vs pro formas if this is recorded)**
- Date decided at committee**
- Decision (granted/refused/partially granted)**
- Date of appeal decision (if applicable)**
- Appeal reference**
- Appeal decision (allowed/dismissed/partially allowed)**
- Date judicially reviewed (if applicable)**
- Judicial review case number**
- JR decision (quashed yes/no)**
- Resubmission date if appropriate with further details as above if relevant**
- If known, whether the scheme was built.**

Only for the period 1 January 2011 to 1 June 2013, and only for those applications that were refused at committee in that period, appealed in that period, judicially reviewed in that period, or called in and then refused in that period, please provide copies of (or give web links to) the decision notices, the appeal notices, the JR decisions and/or to other relevant decision notices.

I would be grateful if you could provide (or give links to) any guidance, SPDs or other policy documents relating to wind energy or the location of wind turbines that your LPA has produced.

If you have a specific officer responsible for dealing with wind schemes (or renewable energy generally) who I might be able to contact to discuss, I would also be grateful for their details.

ANSWER

We do not save planning application records by categories for wind farms and wind turbines. 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.

Searching our database for developments that include 'wind turbine' in the description of development, with a decision date after 1 January 2009, produces three applications, one of which was withdrawn. Details of the determined applications are set out in the attachment.

Applications and supporting documents can be accessed through <http://rcweb.leicester.gov.uk/planning/onlinequery/mainsearch.aspx>.

For your information this part of the letter constitutes a refusal notice under Section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because an exemption under Section 21 of the Act is being applied, namely the information is accessible by other means, e.g. the Council Website.

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.