

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:

We would appreciate it if you would be able to supply us with the specifications that must be met in order for us to be able to improve our range to accommodate more customers.

**For example: Do you only accept certain window styles, if so what?
 Do you only accept certain timber, if so what? Etc.**

ANSWER

Any new or replacement 'controlled fitting' would have to meet the requirements of Regulation L1 of the Building Regulations 2010 (as amended) and also the requirements of Regulation B1 (regarding means of escape) provision where applicable. Other than that Building Control have no specification requirements.

From a conservation perspective, Leicester has around 400 listed buildings and 24 Conservation Areas many of which are in predominantly residential areas. Most of our residential Conservation areas are protected by Article 4 Directions which means that planning permission is required for external alterations to the properties and this includes the replacement of the windows. (listed buildings require both listed building consent and planning permission) Because of the special character of the areas and the important part windows play in defining their special character, our usual advice regarding original timber windows (many of which retain original stained and leaded glass) is to repair them. If the original windows are beyond repair we would ask for like for like replacements.

Because of the eclectic style of the individual properties within the conservation areas the specification of an individual window type would not be possible without detriment to the special architectural and historic character of an area.

If you would like to know more about the conservation areas in Leicester you will need to speak to one of Leicester City Council's conservation officers.

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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.