

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 am writing to make an open request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000. In order to assist you with this request, I am outlining my query as specifically as possible. However, if you feel that this request is too wide or too unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters.

1. Including staff costs, how much money has your authority allocated in its' revenue budget to carrying out its' statutory duties (maintenance, signposting & waymarking, keeping paths free from obstruction, and keeping the definitive map and statement up to date), including staff costs, in respect of public rights of way in 2012/2013 and 2013/14?

ANSWER

The City Council does not employ any dedicated rights of way staff. Responsibilities are shared amongst a number of officers who undertake the work commensurate with their other duties. It is therefore, not possible to calculate the total cost.

2. Not including staff costs, how much money has your authority allocated in its' revenue budget to carrying out its' statutory duties (maintenance, signposting & waymarking, keeping paths free from obstruction, and keeping the definitive map and statement up to date), in respect of public rights of way in 2012/2013 and 2013/14?

A budget of £5k is allocated within our revenue budget for works on the rights of way network.

3. How much money has your authority allocated in its' capital budget in respect of public rights of way in 2012/2013 and 2013/14?

No specific allocation is made within the capital budget for rights of way but funding is made available through grant funding such as our local sustainable transport fund and recent successful bids made to the DfT for funding to the network of cycle tracks within the city.

4. How many staff, expressed as full time equivalents (FTEs), does your authority employ to carry out its' statutory duties (maintenance, signposting & waymarking, keeping paths free from obstruction, and keeping the definitive map and statement up to date), in respect of public rights of way in 2012/2013 and 2013/14?

The city council does not employ a full time public rights of way officer. The functions which such an officer may undertake are split between a number of different officers.

Maintenance inspections and dealing with obstructions would be dealt with by officers in Highway Management who are responsible for undertaking such work on all highways within the city. Responsibility for mapping, providing secretarial support to the Local Access Forum, and offering advice on other aspect on rights of way is undertaken by an officer in Transport Strategy and Programmes. This officer is also responsible for the wider highway record, including the List of Streets, adoptions and extinguishment.

5. How many miles of rights of way are there in your authority area?

77km shown on the definitive map and a further 30km of paths that have been identified for consideration of being added to the map.

6. How many Definitive Map Modification Order applications are awaiting determination by your authority?

Two

7. How many Definitive Map Modification Order applications were determined by your authority in 2011/12 and 2012/13?

None

8. How many Definitive Map Modification Orders were made by your authority in 2011/12 and 2012/13?

2011/12	Twenty orders adding 64 paths to the map
2012/13	Four orders adding 32 paths to the map.

9. How many rights of way problem reports did your authority resolve in 2011/12 and 2012/13?

Reports of problems on the network can be dealt with by various officers across the council. Furthermore there is no guarantee that they would be addressed as a rights of way problem, many enquiries highway are not even categorised against the status of the route being enquired about. It is therefore, not possible to answer this question.

The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this part of 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.

10. How many rights of way problem reports does your authority have awaiting resolution?

None

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.