

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 planning applications your local authority has received from (a) Sikh, (b) Muslim and (c) Hindu religious groups to build a new establishment; and for a breakdown of whether planning permission was granted in each case, in each of the last ten years.

ANSWER

From our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer this question without further clarification. We require further information in order to identify and locate the information you have asked for.

Leicester City Council doesn't record planning applications by religion. In addition, the religion of an applicant group is not always apparent from their planning application, or from the name of the group. In particular, it would be useful to know what planning land uses you are interested in as 'establishments' does not make this clear.

Word searches would have to be made on the online database. Some key words we have used in the past are:

Like "*worship*" or like "*church*" or like "*chapel*" or like "*mosque*" or like "*madressa*" or like "*education*" or like "*temple*" or like "*Madrassa*" or like "*Gurdwara*" or like "*Shree*"

We could provide a spreadsheet of applications for 10 years using this or a similar script, if this would help.

Once you have clarified your request, we will be able to reconsider your request. If this clarification is not received within two months your request will be considered to have lapsed. Under section 1(3) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a public authority need not comply with a request unless any further information reasonably required to locate the information is supplied.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

2. In reference to 1 above, of those applications that were granted planning permission, in how many cases the planning permission has expired, or was otherwise failed to be acted upon, meaning no development actually took place. This may also in

clude notice of planning permission having been granted not being issued by your local authority to the applicant.

We don't log whether these types of development starts, so would not be able to answer this from our records.

The Council does not hold this information. 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.

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.