

## **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:**

**Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to ask for the following information:**

**1) What is your policy on dealing with dead pets which are found by your workers**

**ANSWER**

Our policy on dealing with dead pets are, if a dog or cat is found in the street as reported as road kill, it is our duty of care to remove the carcass from the highway. In very rare occasions we are asked to remove dead animals from a person's property (that doesn't mean it is their pet but could have died on their property). When the pet is collected by the team it is then taken to our Waste Transfer Station and scanned for any microchip owner details, where if any are found, the owner is then contacted to inform them and ask if they want to claim it back. All the animals are placed in our cold storage fridge for a maximum of 7 days, where it is then collected by a Licenced company (SRCL) who are sub-contracted by Biffa Leicester on behalf of Waste Management.

**2) If your policy is to freeze the pets, could you please provide the following information:**

We do not freeze dead pets. All road kill are stored in a large refrigerator at temperatures that do not freeze.

**a) Please list all animals which you have frozen since March 2012, including the type and quantity of each animal.**

As we explained above, we do not freeze animals.

For your information, re dead animals we have collected:

from January 2012 to December 2012 we collected 129 cats and 1 dog, total of 130

January 2013 to December 2013 we collected 133 cats and 2 dogs, a total of 135.

**b) For how long do you store animals before destroying them?**

We store dead animals for a maximum of 7 days.

**c) The number of animals that were frozen in the past two years and which were retrieved by their owners**

As we explained above, we do not freeze dead animals.

For your information: In 2012 we had 3 dead animals that were collected by their owners and 2 dead animals in 2013. A lot of the owners that are contacted about their dead animal do not wish to collect.

**d) The cost of storing/freezing the animals on a yearly basis**

We have to hold a current Waste Permit, issued by the Environment Agency to store waste and also this type of waste (bio hazardous) which is in our waste conditions. The cost for this permit is £8560 per annum, £28 per annum for Hazardous Waste Registration Permit and £780 per annum for maintenance costs of refrigerator. Collection and cost of disposal is carried out by SRCL, who are sub-contracted by Biffa Leicester, who pay the costs of collection and disposal via Waste Management.

**e) Details of the animal which has been stored the longest, including length of time and type of animal.**

As stated above, we store dead animals for a maximum of 7 days.

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](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.