

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:

Please supply the following information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000 A.D.)

A) The total cost of decoration/lights to the following

B) Man hours involved in erecting/taking down

C) Period decorations/lights were operating (i.e. DATES)

NB Each of the above to be listed for each event as follows: –

i) Eid

ii) Dawali

iii) a) Town Hall Sq.

b) Clock Tower.

ANSWER

i) Eid:

Q 1: The total cost of decorations/lights

Total cost of the erection and removal of Eid decorations/lights for 2013 was £8,276.08. This also includes repairs and fault rectification.

Q2: Man hours involved in erecting/taking down.

This information is not held by Leicester City Council as the work is not contracted out on an hourly rate but on a 'Bill of Rates'. Therefore this part of the 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.

Q3: Period decorations/lights were operating (IE DATES)?

The lights were switched on from July 9th until August 12th.

ii) Diwali:

Q 1: The total cost of Diwali decorations/lights

The Council spent £21,766.21 on installing and removing Diwali decorations/lights last year. This also includes repairs and fault rectification.

Q2: Man hours involved in erecting/taking down.

This information is not held by Leicester City Council as the work is not contracted out on an hourly rate but on a 'Bill of Rates'. Therefore this part of the 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.

Q3: Period decorations/lights were operating (IE DATES)?

Diwali switch on was on 20th October 2013 and switched off on 11th November 2013. (Belgrave Road lights were kept in place for the Christmas switch on, which was 17th November 2013. Motifs are swapped from Diwali to Christmas)

There is no double counting with Diwali / Christmas. Costs are kept completely separate.

iii) Christmas:

Q 1: The total cost of decorations/lights for Christmas.

The Council spent £12,559 on installing and removing Christmas decorations/lights at Clock Tower last year. This also includes repairs and fault rectification.

We spent £33,822 on installing and removing Christmas decorations/lights at Town Hall Square last year. This also includes repairs and fault rectification. As we assume you may be interested in the costs of all the City lights we can also say that we spent £109,104 on installing and removing Christmas decorations/lights in the streets of the city last year. This also includes repairs and fault rectification.

Q2: Man hours involved in erecting/taking down.

This information is not held by Leicester City Council as the work is not contracted out on an hourly rate but on a 'Bill of Rates'. Therefore this part of the 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.

Q3: Period decorations/lights were operating (IE DATES)?

The switch on was on 17/11/13. All decorations were turned off on 6/1/14.

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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.