

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:

Hi,
I'm placing a Freedom of Information request for the number of occasions from January 1, 2013, till January 31st, 2014 that reminder letters were sent to your authority's councillors for non-payment of council tax.
Could you please specify the amount of money owed for each occasion a letter was sent?
Could you also specify the political party of the councillor involved where there are enough members of one party to avoid identification? ie. If there are 5 Labour councillors, then specifying that a councillor receiving a letter is Labour does not contravene data protection - where as if there's just one Labour councillor, it obviously would and I wouldn't expect this information to be provided.
Where multiple letters have been sent for a single case, could this be made clear.
And finally could you outline how the matter of non-payment was resolved? ie. Paid in full in September 2013, court appearance and settled in October 2013 etc.
Can all correspondence or queries please be sent by email or by telephone.

ANSWER:

At Leicester, the council has 54 elected councillors and an elected mayor. Of the 54 councillors, 52 represent the Labour Party, 1 the Conservative Party and 1 Liberal Democrat. As such, for the purposes of responding to your enquiry, we have excluded both of the opposition members from our information gathering exercise as they could be identified.

We are withholding that information since we consider that to be an absolute exemption under section 40(2) (personal data), and this therefore constitutes a refusal under section 17 of the Freedom of information Act 2000.

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.