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:
The number of FOI and EIR requests the council has received in years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013.

The number of FOI and EIR requests the council has received where the person requesting the information did not receive a response within the statutory 20 day limit

ANSWER:
Please see attachment for the answers to your questions. Please note that prior to 2011 we are unable to give the number of late requests as this was logged on an old system, to which we no longer have access. Although the old system is no longer available, it also had no option to search the number of late requests. This is why we have the total number of requests for those years, which we took of the system before we lost access, but no record of how many of these were late (answered outside of the 20 day limit). This was one of the main driving forces behind sourcing a new system.

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.

We are also unable to give you exact figures on which requests were EIR and which were FOIA. This is because the majority are often a mix of the two. I can tell you that for 2013 we had 3 EIR requests that did not contain any questions that fell under FOIA. 425 of the total number of requests for 2013 we deemed to be a mix of FOIA & EIR. Before 2013 we logged all requests equally on our system and to tell which were EIR and which were FOIA we would have to manually go into each request to check.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for local government is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending more than 18 hours in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We estimate it will take 79 hours to process your request just for year 2012 which had the lowest number from 2011 onwards. This is calculated on 5 minutes per request, with a total of 951.

This is therefore a Refusal Notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act, because under the provisions of section 12.1 of the Act, the

Council estimates that to comply with your request in its current form will exceed the appropriate limit.

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.