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:

I am concerned about the standard of driving of some Leicester taxi drivers. Could you please let me know how many taxi drivers registered to work in Leicester have 12 points or more on their licence? In addition what is the greatest number of points a Leicester taxi driver has on their licence?

ANSWER:

We do keep scanned copies of each driver's licence and so we could retrieve these individually and check them. Unfortunately as there are 1,862 drivers, based on an estimate that it would take 2 minutes each to retrieve, check and record the information, this would take more than 60 hours to search for this information.

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.

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.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required. We do have a duty to advise and assist you in refining your request under s16 of the Act, so please don't hesitate to contact us if you need help in refining your request.

With regards to what is the greatest number of points a Leicester taxi driver has on their licence - we do have a standard for convictions which requires drivers to have less than 12 points on their licence. The Licensing Committee is able to grant licences in exceptional circumstances where this standard has not been met. They have granted two licences to drivers with 12 points or more in the last three years.

The legislation allows you to use the information supplied for your own personal use, or for journalistic purposes. If the information is a dataset (which does not relate to the environment), you may also use the information for commercial re-use under an Open Government Licence.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

Information Governance Manager Information and Support 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 may also seek independent advice from 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 requests until the internal appeals process of the Council has been exhausted. You are therefore advised to appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.