

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:

Q1. Commissioners

How many people in your local authority are currently employed in commissioning and procurement roles?

How many unfilled vacancies do you currently have in commissioning and procurement?

Answer:

There are 27.8 fte people employed in commissioning and procurement roles in Adult Social Care, in the Local Authority.

There are 3.6fte vacancies in commissioning and procurement currently in Adult Social Care, in the Local Authority.

We currently have approximately 4.5 FTE involved in commissioning and procurement across Education and Children's Services.

There is one FTE vacancy in commissioning and procurement within Education and Children's Services in the LA

The corporate procurement function contains 15FTE of which 8.05 posts are currently vacant (although three of these have been filled with appointees due to start work in May).

Do you provide any training (formal or informal) to commissioners in your local authority? If yes, please specify.

The Local Authority does not provide training, but training is identified in response to individual and team Training Needs Analyses, and commissioned as required.

Q2. Social value act

Does your local authority have anything (strategy, guidance, staff training or other) in place for implementing the social value act? If yes, please give details.

The Public Services (Social Value) Act came into force early last year. We have been responding to its requirements in several different ways as appropriate for each applicable procurement process, and often for some procurement processes not within the mandatory scope of the Act.

Examples include:

Youth Services – dividing the requirements into several separate tender exercises, and offering support to voluntary sector organisations and other tenderers prior to and during the tender period;

Accommodation Based Housing Related Support & Floating Support Services – we have asked tenderers for proposals on involvement of local people, customers and carers in the delivery/development of the services, and the specification obliges incorporates developing opportunities for bringing additional funding into the City and supporting opportunities for people to acquire new skills through experiential learning and volunteering
office furniture for the new offices included questions on impact on the local environment, creating local employment opportunities and local supply chains;

Consideration of disaggregating requirements within the office accommodation refurbishment programme, so separate open lower value procurement processes have been conducted for the refurbishment of 16 New Walk, Sovereign House– both of which have been awarded to local SMEs – and Phoenix House (currently out to tender); New Walk Centre Development – social value is being incorporated into the evaluation criteria for tenders through the inclusion of the EAP themes (Thriving City, Growing City, Leicester to Work, Enterprising Leicester and Confident City).

We have worked with contractors on major construction projects to increase apprenticeships and work experience opportunities for local people, and increase their engagement with local supply chains

This clearly demonstrates the authority's commitment to the principles of Social Value and achieving this through procurement. I also believe the Act and our actions closely align with the key priorities of the City Mayor's Local Procurement Task Force. One of the appointees due to start in May is a new Procurement Strategy Manager; one of their first key will be to ensure that processes are put in place to develop guidance, strategy and training on this to ensure we meet and exceed the requirements of the Act in a more robust, consistent and auditable way.

Do you have any means of monitoring how the social value act is being implemented? If yes, please specify how you do this and how many times it has been implemented since the commencement of the act.

We are monitoring a number of KPIs on individual contracts/projects but do not as yet have a means of monitoring social value across the board.

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.