

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: Clarification received on 11/06/14:-

I am in particular interested in adult care, therefore older people's care homes on this occasion. In the case of HMO's, I am looking for any council owned properties that do not constitute care homes, but have a number of tenants living within them.

Original Request:-

I would like to request information from your establishment under the Freedom of Information Act pertaining to smoke and CO alarm and detection systems. This specifically relates to the systems you have in place in council owned care homes and properties with multiple occupancy (HMO's).

- 1. How many care homes and or homes of multiple occupancy (HMO) does the council own (Please specify individually by care home / HMO).**

ANSWER:

Leicester City Council owns 10 Elderly Persons Homes (EPHs) and 7 Homes of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs). Please see below for the individual EPHs & HMOs.

- 2. How many people currently live in council owned care homes and / or HMO's (Please specify individually by care home / HMO).**

173 people live in the council owned Elderly Persons Homes:

Elderly Person Home	Number of Residents
Abbey House	28
Arbor House	36
Brookside Court	18
Cooper House	27
Elizabeth House	0
Herrick Lodge	6
Nuffield House	0
Preston Lodge	23
Thurncourt	30
Kingfisher Unit	5

21 people live in HMOs:

Location of HMO	No of People living at property
Vaughan Street	3
Elstree Avenue	3
Packhorse Road	3
Woburn Close	3
Coleman Road	3
Fowler Close	3
Humphries Close	3

3. Please supply information on the number of reported incidents in the past 12 and 24 months in council owned care homes / HMO's, relating to the items listed below. Please also give the total cost to the council of those events by item type as below (Please specify individually by care home / HMO).

- a) Kitchen fires – 0 in HMOs, 0 in EPHs
- b) Electrical fires – 0 in HMOs, 1 in EPHs
Nuffield Elderly Person Home - £6000.00 cost to repair Emergency Lighting in April 2013.
- c) Arson - 0 in HMO, 0 in EPHs
- d) Other fires e.g. cigarette – 0 in HMOs, 0 in EPHs
- e) False alarms – 0 in HMOs , 8 in EPHs, details are:-
Arbor House – 2 Fire Alarm Faults – No cost
Brookside Court – 2 Fire Alarm Faults – No cost
Preston Lodge – 2 occasions Toasters Smoking – No cost
Thurncourt – 2 Fire Alarm Faults – No cost

4. Please provide information on how many smoke detectors the council is responsible for installing / maintaining and the annual cost (last 12 months), of installing / maintaining this equipment in council owned care homes and / or HMO's (please specify individually by care home / HMO).

- a) Number of hardwired devices
49 smoke detectors are installed / maintained in HMOs. There are 7 smoke detectors in each of the 7 properties.

415 smoke detectors are installed / maintained in Elderly Persons Care Homes:

Elderly Person Home	Number of Smoke Detectors
Abbey House	16
Arbor House	123
Brookside Court	5
Elizabeth House	143
Herrick Lodge	6
Nuffield House	77
Preston Lodge	3
Thurncourt	42

We are unable to provide you with the annual cost of installing and maintaining smoke detectors in HMOs & EPHs as the costs are combined with other costs and we are unable to separate these figures within the 18 hour time limit.

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.

b) Number of battery operated devices

0 in HMOs

c) Number of wireless devices

0 in HMOs

Please confirm if these are:

- a) Ionisation (for detecting fast flaming fires)**
- b) Optical (for detecting slow burning smouldering fires)**
- c) Thermoptek™ (detects both types of fire through temperature monitoring)**

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.

5. Please provide information on how many CO detectors the council is responsible for installing / maintaining and the annual (last 12 months), cost of installing / maintaining this equipment, in council owned care homes and / or council owned HMO's (please specify individually by care home / HMO):

We do not have the information in a form that is easily available and provides the individual CO data for Elderly Persons Care Homes. To extract this information will mean we will exceed the 18 hour time limit.

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.

a) Number of hardwired devices

In HMOs – 49 Smoke detectors

In Elderly Persons Care Homes:-

Control Panels	Total Zones	Manual Call Points	Smoke Detectors	Heat Detectors	Sounders
9	80	160	415	56	204

b) Number of battery operated devices

In HMOs – 31 CO Detectors are installed / maintained.

We do not install or maintain any battery operated devices in Elderly Persons Care Homes.

c) Number of wireless devices

We do not have any wireless devices.

6. Does the council currently operate a web enabled detection system that connects to a call centre and provides alert text messages or e-mails? If not, would the council plan to install one over the next 24 months?

Leicester City Council does not operate a web enabled detection system. There are also no plans to install this type of system in the next 24 months.

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 Governance Team
Leicester City Council
9-15 Princess Road West
Leicester
LE1 6TH
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.