

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Budgets on Environment**

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

From our preliminary assessment of all of the different budgets involved, this would take more than the 18 hours 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.

However, we have tried to answer as much as we can within a manageable timeframe. We have looked at the areas you have highlighted and provided a breakdown for the Environmental Services' Division which we hope will provide the information you are seeking. The services in this division include all Waste, Recycling, Street Cleaning, Building Control Parks & Open Spaces (not Sport Centres etc.), Pollution including Air Quality & Contaminated Land some Statutory Nuisance and Trading Standards.

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.

If we do not hear from you within three months from the date of this letter your request will be considered to have lapsed. Under section 1(3) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a public authority need not comply with a request unless any further information reasonably required to locate the information is supplied.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

**You asked:**

**Please bear in mind the following aspects of council activities when answering my questions:**

**Waste and recycling**  
**Municipal waste**  
**Commercial waste**  
**Hazardous and clinical waste**  
**Waste and recycling centres**  
**Street scene (graffiti, litter, etc.)**

Planning and building control  
Parks and recreation  
Air quality - e.g. monitoring stations  
Nature conservation  
Contaminated land  
Industrial regulation - e.g. inspection rates  
LA IPPC (Part A2)  
LAPPC (Part B)  
Statutory nuisance  
Flooding  
Transport  
Road planning and maintenance  
Bus regulation and subsidy  
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency  
Education  
Voluntary groups  
Funding and collaboration  
External scrutiny  
Trading standards (which has some responsibility for enforcing chemicals legislation)

1. What budget has been set for your environment department (or equivalent) for the financial year 2011/12?

**Answer:**

Environmental Services Budget for 2011/12 is £25,268,000

2. What was the environment budget for 2010/11?

Environmental Services Budget for 2010/11 is £25,848,000

3. What will be the environment budgets for the coming financial years to 2015?

Environmental Services Budget for the coming financial years to 2015 have not yet been set.

4. What overall budget has been set for the financial year 2011/12?

Please see initial paragraph.

5. What was the overall budget for 2010/11?

Please see initial paragraph.

6. What will be the overall budgets for the coming financial years to 2015?

This has not yet been agreed

7. How do you plan to deliver the required savings? (For example: cutting waste and recycling sites, cutting flood defence investment)

A Reduction in the number of applied sweepers for Street Cleaning

- B Large reduction in agency staff to cover holidays & sickness
- C Closure of the Consumer Advice Centre
- d General reduction in supplies and services and cut in vacant posts

Please note that the savings shown above are for this financial year 2011-12 and that future savings have not yet been agreed.

**8. What areas of activity will be and have been curtailed?**

- A Walk in centre for Consumer Advice
- B Street washing & mechanical street cleaning

Please note that the savings shown above are for this financial year 2011-12 and that future savings have not yet been agreed.

**9. What staff posts will be and have been made redundant, given reduced hours, etc?**

Head of service post deleted & staff reviews currently taking place.

Please note that the savings shown above are for this financial year 2011-12 and that future savings have not yet been agreed.

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 Head of Information Governance using the details below.

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

**Head of Information Governance  
Information and Support  
Leicester City Council  
FREEPOST (LE985/33)  
New Walk Centre  
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG  
e-mail: [FOIA@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:FOIA@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**

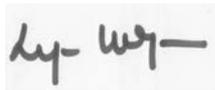
**Wilmslow SK9 5AF**

**Telephone: 01625 545 700**

[www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://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 Head of Information Governance before contacting the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynn Wyeth', is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

*Lynn Wyeth*

Head of Information Governance