FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Travellers & Gypsies

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

You asked:

1. Please provide me with details about how much your council has spent, in each of the last three financial years, on unauthorised or temporary gypsy and/or traveller encampments.

Response: Expenditure on unauthorised traveller encampments

Year	Amount	Description
2008/9	£35,822.16	includes legal costs & clearing up costs
2009/10	£21,639.41	includes legal costs & clearing up costs
2010/11	£1,534.06	Clearing up costs

- 2. Please provide me with details about how much your council has spent, in each of the last three financial years, on unauthorised or temporary gypsy and traveller settlements.
 - Please provide a total expense figure for each of the financial years: 2008 2009; 2009 2010; 2010 2011.
 - Please include any costs spent on clearing sites, legal fees, clean-up costs, increased security measures to protect council land, waste disposal, bailiffs, barriers, CCTV systems and repairs and any other costs incurred.
 - If possible, please provide a breakdown of the costs for each of the three financial years.

If this breakdown of costs goes beyond the limits of time you can spend on this FOI application, please simply include a total figure for each financial year.

There are no unauthorised or temporary gypsy and traveller settlements in Leicester other than the encampments referred to in Q1.

- 3. Please provide me with details about how many unauthorised gypsy and traveller encampments and settlements were dealt with by your council during the course of the last three financial years.
 - Please include the names of the locations of these unauthorised encampments / settlements, or a description of the site. For example a football pitch, school field or layby etc.

Please see attached list

AnsAttch1 Q3 -Travellers Unauthorised Encampments LeicsCity08-11- 6008

4. Please provide me with details about how much money has been set aside, if any, by your council for provision for dealing with future unauthorised gypsy and traveller encampments and settlements.

There is an ongoing budget of £5,000 for the clearance of gypsy and traveller sites. Since 2009 the responsibility for dealing with illegal gypsy and traveller sites is with the Leicestershire County Council Multi Agency (MATU which is jointly funded by Leicester City, Leicestershire County Council and the District Councils.

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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

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 Head of Information Governance before contacting the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

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Lynn Wyeth
Head of Information Governance

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