

The Request – Foia 0563

Q. No.	Question	Answer
1	What is the total area of all land, regardless of its use, that your Authority owns, manages or administers?	17,304,502 square metres
2	What is the total area of publicly accessible grassland that your Authority owns, manages or administers, excluding formal parks, designated sports pitches and designated wildlife conservation areas?	3,810,149 square metres
The term "amenity grassland" hereafter refers to the grassland identified in response to question 2.		
3	Does your Authority define the frequency of grass cutting on this amenity grassland?	The grass cutting is done on a performance specification, i.e. grass height should be between specified lengths at all times. This specification is site-specific, so grass verges have a different specification to bowling greens for example.
4	If your Authority does not define the frequency of grass cutting on this amenity grassland, please state the Authority that does define it.	n/a
5	Does your Authority define the grass cutting height on this amenity grassland?	Yes – there are a number of different specifications for “amenity grassland”. For grass road verges for example, grass should be maintained between 50-150mm in height with the cuttings not removed. Sward height will vary depending on the function of the individual site.
6	If your Authority does not define the grass cutting height on this amenity grassland, please state the Authority that does define it.	n/a
7	Does your Authority actively attempt to identify or record the wild flower species present on this amenity grassland?	Yes. Many sites are maintained as meadow areas, and species composition is recorded on an annual basis. This enables the “quality” of the meadows to be recorded on a regular basis. There is no recording of floral diversity on, for example, grass verges.

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8	Does your Authority actively consider the protection or encouragement of wild flowers when defining or executing a grass cutting regime on this amenity grassland?	Only for those areas which are designated as being important for nature conservation (e.g. local wildlife sites)
9	If your Authority does not define the grass cutting regime on this amenity grassland, does it attempt to negotiate the regime with those who do define it, with the explicit aim of improving the ecological diversity of the grassland?	n/a
10	What is the typical frequency of cutting to which the grass on this amenity grassland is subjected?	Between 5-15 cuts per annum dependent on location and weather conditions.
12	Is the frequency of cutting on this amenity grassland varied with the seasons of the year in a systematic manner?	Not especially but there may be more cuts undertaken when grass growth is at its maximum, for example in springtime.
13	What is the typical height of cut used on this amenity grassland?	Grass sward is usually kept between 50-150 in height.
14	Is the height of cut on this amenity grassland varied with the seasons of the year in a systematic manner?	No – see answer to Q12.
15	Approximately what proportion of this amenity grassland is located in a rural environment?	None – the City of Leicester is an urban environment
16	What is your Authority's approximate annual budgetary allocation for maintenance of this amenity grassland?	£832K

End of Request