

Thank you for your email of 14th March 2012 where you requested information about Gypsy and Traveller sites. You asked for the following:

Statistics detailing the number of un-authorised encampments per ward or LPU area broken down by month each year for the last 3 years that occurred within Leicester City District.

Please see the attached document.

Any statistics detailing how many of the un-authorised encampment visits that detail repeat visits by the same set of gypsies and/or travellers (again using ward or LPU area and broken down by month each year for the last 3 years)

This is exempt from release under the Environmental Information Regulations Reg 12(4)(b) and s12 of the Freedom of Information Act. (Manifestly Unreasonable / Exceeds the Limit). The files listed in the attached document would have to be inspected manually to determine repeat visits by visiting travellers. This will take many hours work.

Evidence of the details that identify the 3 proposed sites as being the ones that best meet the criteria that the thorough search of council owned land identified to have the potential to be authorised sites where the land has been assessed against a range of factors including:

- . **Potential to be well screened to ensure privacy**
- . **Impact upon neighbours**
- . **Impact on ecology**
- . **Safe pedestrian and vehicle access**
- . **Availability in the short term**

The City Mayor has extended the consultation period until July 13th and has published details of the 350 potential sites online. He has also asked the Council's Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Scrutiny Commission to look at the proposals, to ensure the widest possible consideration has taken place.

This information is now available on the Council's website at:
<http://www.leicester.gov.uk/gypsyandtravellersites/>.

If you have any difficulty accessing the website then, an information pack can be posted to you. Please let me know if you require an information pack in hard copy.

I can confirm that some of this information may also be information not held. As the sites have not been decided upon, full assessments under the planning process have not been carried out as yet. Once sites are chosen, and

planning applications submitted, further appraisals and consultations will form part of the planning process.

At the consultation meeting on 12 March 2012, Sir Peter Soulsby kept referring to the proposed sites containing 21 family pitches. However, the current plans show there to be 26 family pitches (across the 3 sites). Please can you explain why there is a discrepancy between the plans and what was said at the consultation meeting of 5 family pitches?

The total number of potential pitches across all 3 sites total 26 pitches, but funding is only in place for 21. As we have not determined which sites may be chosen yet, we do not know precisely where the 21 pitches may be located across the potential sites. Although we are consulting on 3 sites (26 pitches) there is no guarantee that we will proceed with all 3 sites. So for example if we went forward with two 10 pitch sites we would have near enough the 21 pitches we have funding for. It may also be that following further feasibility work one of the sites cannot accommodate 10 pitches.

With regard to the current 'temporary' site on Greengate Lane, can you tell me if the people currently residing there pay rent/council tax/licensing fees etc and how much this is per week?

This information involves the personal information of individual travellers and is exempt from release to you under Reg. 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations and s40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. This is therefore a refusal notice under s17 of the Freedom of Information Act. I am sorry if this response is disappointing, but to release the personal information of other individuals (e.g. their financial details) could cost the Council a fine from the Information Commissioner's Office under the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

**Information Governance Manager
Information and Customer Access
Leicester City Council
FREEPOST (LE985/33)
New Walk Centre
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG
e-mail: foia@leicester.gov.uk**

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

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 the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Lynn Wyeth

Information Governance Manager