

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:

My request relates to the Weekly Collections Support Scheme being run by the Department for Communities & Local Government (see note 1).

Councils wanting to bid for funding from the £250m Weekly Collections Support Scheme had to submit bids by Friday 11 May.

Please provide me with:

- 1. A response to say whether or not your council has bid for funding.**

ANSWER

Yes we have

- 2. And if you have bid: the bid documents* from your council.**

***Please note: commercially sensitive information can be redacted out. This is not a request looking to obtain commercially sensitive information. Simply the nature of bids. If it is not possible to send all documents please provide an outline of the bid.**

We have made 3 provisional bids on the basis that we are an existing weekly collection service and to maintain it we need to improve our recycling rate to meet the Government targets and to save budget on rising landfill tax.

Bid 1 – relates to the promotion of the current recycling services and the expansion of the number of waste minimisation initiatives promoted. This bid focuses in particular on the promotion of the orange recycling service, with the aim to increase participation and the amount of recycling collected, thus helping us to achieve an increased recycling rate. This would be achieved through a variety of activities such as door stepping, promotional literature etc. both across the whole of Leicester and in targeted areas. The bid would also support the introduction of a chargeable fortnightly garden waste collection to help divert waste away from the black general waste bins and increase composting rates whilst minimising the cost to residents.

Bid 2 – relates to the development of recycling services across Leicester, including a new Household Waste Recycling Centre which would replace an existing site which is too small, with limited recycling facilities and restricted access. The new centre in addition to attracting more material for recycling, would also offer an opportunity to work with the voluntary sector to encourage reuse of waste and to offer a trade waste service to enable SMEs to dispose of their waste. The bid also relates to the improvement and development of

the current recycling bank sites and 'on street' recycling facilities, as well as supporting the introduction of a kerbside battery collection for all households.

Bid 3 – relates to a trial for the separate collection of food waste to assess the economic viability of a potential change in service.

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

Information Governance Manager
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 the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.