

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:

Are the companies/corporations where Leicester is a shareholder, oversight/coordinated by a special institution/working group or something similar? Is the oversight centralized (done by one entity) or split up into specialized groups? If it is centralized, where is the group located in the authority? As an administrative group on the highest level in the authority, or on a lower level?

ANSWER:

Leicester City Council does not have centrally co-ordinated oversight arrangements for the companies in which it is a shareholder, although shareholdings are recorded corporately for the purposes of the Council's statutory statement of accounts. Each Divisional Director is expected to ensure the appropriate oversight of any shareholdings within their service area, which is subject to internal and external audit review.

Is there an aggregate report which gives an overview about these entities?

No, Leicester City Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

On how many companies/corporations/independent entities Leicester holds shares? What is the total asset and how many people are approximately employed?

Leicester City Council's corporate records show that the Council holds shares in the following companies:

Leicester Miller Education Company Ltd - Company No. 06259260 - 10% shareholding

Leicester BSF Company 2 Ltd - Company No. 07713782 - 9% shareholding

HomeCome Ltd - Company No. 05090350 - Company Limited by Guarantee, 49% interest

Leicester Shire Connexions Service Ltd - Company No. 05090350 - Company Limited by Guarantee, 50% interest

Leicester Shire Connexions Trading Ltd - Company No. 04336175 - Company Limited by Guarantee, 50% interest

Great Central Railway PLC - Company No. 01257394 - 8% shareholding

EMPSN Services Ltd- Company No. 05882746 - Company Limited by Guarantee, approx. 5% interest

SDSA Ltd - Company No. 05414938 - wholly owned

It is not possible to show the total asset, as the book value of shareholdings / interest does not necessarily reflect the current asset value and Companies Limited by Guarantee have specific conditions attached to the distribution of any asset value. The Council does not routinely update the value of its holdings. The Council does not hold this information. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

Circa 400 people are recorded as being employed by the companies.

Do the board members of these corporations/companies have to comply with a code of conduct to achieve good governance? If yes, could you please attach a copy to your response?

Board members are subject to the general statutory and ethical requirements upon individuals acting in the capacity of a Company Director. The Council does not have any additional code of conduct.

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 Information Governance Manager using the details below.

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

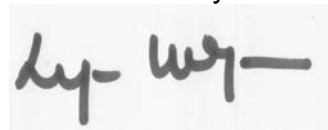
Wilmslow SK9 5AF

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.

Yours sincerely

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

Lynn Wyeth

Information Governance Manager