

## **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:**

### **TRADING STANDARDS SERVICES**

**Please tell us what budget your authority allocated for Trading Standards services per head of local population (ie net cost per head of local population) for each of the following financial years:**

#### **ANSWER**

- (a) 2009/10 Net Cost £1,075K; £3.58
- (b) 2010/11 Net £1,016K; £3.38
- (c) 2011/12 Net Cost £901K; £3.00

The population of Leicester is estimated at around 300,000 in this period.

**Please tell us the number of posts (headcount) which have been deleted in your authority's Trading Standards service in**

- |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>a) 2009/10</b> | <b>b) 2010/11</b> | <b>c) 2011/12</b> |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|

No posts have been deleted in the Trading Standards Service in the period 2009/2012. One post has been converted to an Intelligence Manager post in 2009/10. Three vacancies have been assigned to the planned Business Support Unit for 2012/13. Recruitment not commenced.

**3. Please tell us the number of Trainee/Student Training Standards Officer posts (headcount) which have been deleted in your authority's Trading Standards service in**

- |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>a) 2009/10</b> | <b>b) 2010/11</b> | <b>c) 2011/12</b> |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|

Leicester City Council have no dedicated 'student' posts on the establishment. The Trading Standards Service has a career grade scheme which enables the recruitment of people to different points depending on the needs of the Service and market conditions. We currently have one employee on the 'trainee' grade.

**4. Please tell us which of the following services your authority currently provides and any you have ceased providing at any time since January 2010 by ticking the relevant boxes overleaf?**

<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>Currently providing</b>	<b>Ceased providing at any time since January 2010</b>
Weights and measures	Yes	
Fair trading	Yes	
Product safety	Yes	
Food standards	Yes – Undertaken by Food Safety Team	
Consumer credit	Yes	
Animal health and welfare	Yes – but very little work demand in City	
Agriculture	Yes – but very little work demand in City	
Licensing and age restricted sales	Yes	
Consumer advice -1st tier	No	
Consumer advice - 2 <sup>nd</sup> tier	No	
Consumer education	No – occasional public awareness e.g. Doorstep Crime	
Business advice-home authority	Yes	
Business advice-primary authority	There are no Primary Authority Partnerships with City businesses.	
Laboratory services	No	
Road traffic	No	
Approved trader scheme	No	
No Cold calling zones	Yes. We support the Police and Neighbourhood Groups in setting them up if requested.	

**5. Please provide figures for the following activities for each of the financial years identified by filling in the boxes below:**

	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>
Number of enquiries and complaints requiring a response	2275	2106	2146
Number of enforcement visits	391 (excludes age restricted)	419 (excludes age restricted)	416 (excludes age restricted)
Number of programmed inspections	1	1	3
Number of informal cautions, letters of advice and written warnings issued	65	76	116
Number of simple cautions issued	7	13	9
Number of prosecutions commenced	9	11	5
Number of age restricted test purchases (eg alcohol and tobacco, solvent, fireworks, knives etc)	178	184	99

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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: [info.requests@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:info.requests@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](http://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.