

## **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:**

**1. When the last time an audit was carried out by the Council to see if there are asbestos containing materials in schools in your area?**

### **ANSWER**

Asbestos surveys have been undertaken at all schools over the last 4 years which has updated previous surveys under the new regulations HSG264. A quarterly monitoring regime is done in all schools with asbestos containing materials (ACMs) by the site Building responsible officer (BRO). This information is fed back to the Corporate Asbestos Coordinator to analyse. Compliance with this requirement is audited by education health and safety team through their annual audit programme.

**2. How many schools in the Council area are known to have asbestos containing materials? What proportion of the total is this?**

LCC have 75 schools with ACM's, this equates to 81% of the schools under LCC. (This does not include Voluntary Aided schools as they manage themselves).

**3. Please identify the schools in which asbestos containing materials have been found?**

Please see attached list.

**4. What is your policy on the removal of asbestos containing materials from your schools?**

LCC manage their asbestos in accordance with the HSE regulations HSG264

- a. Asbestos is only dangerous when disturbed. If it is safely managed and contained, it doesn't present a health hazard;
- b. Don't remove asbestos unnecessarily - removing it can be more dangerous than leaving it in place and managing it;
- c. The duty to manage is all about putting in place the practical steps necessary to protect maintenance workers and others from the risk of exposure to asbestos fibres. It is not about removing all asbestos.

**5. What insurance do you have to cover future asbestos-related claims relating to school staff? Please give financial details where available.**

LCC will continue, as we have in the past, to take out Employers Liability insurance cover which provides an indemnity for bodily injury including death, illness or disease to employees caused as a result of the council negligence. The current indemnity we have is £50m and we would imagine that this will be the minimum future indemnity limit – Brian Brookes (LCC, Insurance and Claims manager).

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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)

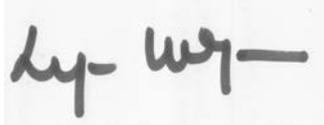
Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

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.

Yours sincerely

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

**Lynn Wyeth**  
**Information Governance Manager**