

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:

Please could you provide UNISON with the following information?

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Environmental Health in this response includes the following service areas: Food safety, health & safety, pollution ,noise, private sector housing , public health, pest and dog control.

1 . Please tell us what budget your authority allocated for Environmental Health services per head of local population (ie net cost per head of local population) for each of the following financial years: (Figures based on national statistics 2010 mid-year estimates of 306,631 population for Leicester)

- a) 2009/10 £8.56
- b) 2010/11 £8.34
- c) 2011/12 £7.87

2. Please tell us the number of posts (headcount) which have been deleted in your authority's Environmental Health service in the following years

- a) 2009/10 0
- b) 2010/11 2.0 posts
- c) 2011/12 2 part time posts

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

- a) 2009/10 0
- b) 2010/11 0
- c) 2011/12 0

4. Please provide details of any changes in the operation of environmental health out-of-hours services (including telephone help-lines) made over the past three years, using 2009/10 as a baseline

- a) 2009/10 No Change
- b) 2010/11 Sunday nights (20.00 – 02.00) ended 31st March 2010
- c) 2011/12 Monday evenings / nights (16.30 – 02.00) ended 31st March 2012

5. Please provide details of any changes in the charges payable for environmental health pest control services made over the past three years, using 2009/10 as a baseline. Prices include VAT.

- a) 2009/10 £52 charge
- b) 2010/11 £52 (no change)
- c) 2011/12 £53 (+£1)

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

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Number of enquiries and complaints requiring a response (Uniform data base)	16,488	19,037	18,792
Number of notices issued	993	780	918
Number of enforcement visits (Uniform data base)	11,945	12,095	12,328
Number of programmed inspections	See Note 1 below	See Note 1 below	See Note 1 below
Number of food safety premises inspections(Uniform data base)	1,143	1,142	1,132
Number of incidents of fly tipping reported	6,763	10,257	10,200
Number of noise complaints received(Uniform data base)	2,769	2,919	2,478
Number of prosecutions commenced	6	9	4
Total revenue earned from fees and charges levied by the Environmental Health service (income)	£378,000	£362,000	£365,000

Note 1

A 'programmed inspection' is an inspection of a premise or business which has been scheduled on the basis of a risk assessment or other priority setting exercise (as opposed to an inspection which occurs as a direct response to a complaint or incident) at some point in time. It would take a lot of time to manually go through three years of data we hold to identify which 'inspections' were programmed and which weren't. Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for Local Authorities is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We estimate that it will take us in excess of 2.5 working days to determine appropriate material and locate, retrieve and extract the information in reference to your request. Therefore, this part of your request will not be processed further.

However we have the following in connection with programmed mandatory houses in multiple occupation:

2009/10	51
2010/11	35
2011/12	52

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: 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

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