

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:

Does your Council have an electronic land charges register?

ANSWER:

Yes

If Yes:

How long does it take someone familiar with your electronic system to conduct an electronic land charge register search of a property in an average numbered residential street?

Times can vary depending on property as some searches can be much more complex than others, even for an "average numbered" property. If an example property could be identified we could provide a more specific answer.

Are the general public and the private sector allowed access to it?

No

Do the general public and private sector have the same rights of unrestricted access and document production as Council employees?

No

If No:

What are all the differences in the manner of accessing and copying land charge register information enjoyed by the general public and private sector in comparison with Council employees?

Owing to data protection policies and IT system security the general public and private sector cannot currently gain access to the electronic Land Charges register. Access to the system is restricted to Land Charges staff and users in departments that respond to CON29 questions.

Information is extracted and printed for view, or e-mailed, upon request.

Are the same photocopying and printing facilities available to the general public for the production of copy environmental information as to the Council?

No

Have the Markinson charging provisions for copying environmental information been accepted and followed by the Council?

Is the Markinson 10p photocopying charge cost effective for the Council to collect

Is the Markinson charge waived?

From our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer your request without further clarification.

Could you please clarify what you mean by the Markinson Charging Provision? Also, once you have clarified this point, and we are able to address the last three questions of your request, please let us know if you would like us to address these questions purely on our land charges department or if you wish this to be a corporate wide response on photocopying.

Once you have clarified your request, we will be able to reconsider your request. If this clarification is not received within three months your request will be considered to have lapsed. Under section 1(3) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a public authority need not comply with a request unless any further information reasonably required to locate the information is supplied.

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.