

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:

I would like to know why Network Rail gets an exception for using bus lanes within your remit.

ANSWER

Network Rail approached the Council to seek permission for their liveried vehicles to be able to use Leicester's bus lanes whilst responding to an emergency, such as bridge strike or derailment on their network. As using a bus lane is a Criminal as well as Civil offence, the Council discussed the request with the Chief Constable and both parties agreed that such an exemption would be acceptable.

I would also like to know which vehicles/types of vehicles get the exception.

In relation to bus lanes, the exemption is for buses (vehicles over 10 seats), hackney carriages, cycles, emergency service vehicles, network rail vehicles described in (1) and certain other vehicles required to be in or drive through a bus lane for operational reasons (see 4 and 5)

I also want to know if this applies to subcontractors of Network Rail.

The exemption applies to a Network Rail liveried vehicle, it does not matter whether the driver is directly or in-directly employed by Network Rail.

I also want to know which vehicles get the exception for Leicester City Council.

Leicester City Council vehicles that have been exempted in addition to our bus fleet are City Highways Vehicles operationally required to carry out our Statutory Duty to maintain the roads, (gully cleaning, road gritting, highways repairs and maintenance) and also Cleansing vehicles operationally required to carry out our Statutory Duty to clean the Highway, (road sweeping, litter bin emptying).

Apart from Hackney registered vehicles, buses and cycles, emergency vehicles and authorised vehicles belonging to Leicester City Council and Network Rail, are there any other vehicles (types or belonging to certain businesses) that receive an exception for using your bus lanes.

The City Council has a contract with JC Decaux for the supply and maintenance of our bus shelters, therefore, certain JC Decaux vehicles are

permitted to use the bus lanes whilst undertaking shelter maintenance works (cleaning, repairs etc)

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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

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

