



Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
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Date: 12 May 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATION REQUEST 1600

I write further to your email dated 29 April 2021.

Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Environmental Information Regulation 2004 (EIR), explained on our [Environmental Information Regulation](#) page.

Your request:

Question 1

Which method for collecting recycling glass do you complete? (kerbside or co-mingled for example)
Kerbside

Question 2

- I. Have you completed any noise assessments for refuse recycling collection services?
We did have our Environmental team complete an assessment when we first started recycling glass.
- II. If yes, have these been completed for exposure to the workforce or for environmental noise?
No.

Question 3

If you have completed noise assessments for noise exposure to the workforce of recycling refuse collections, can you please provide the information with exposure levels? (Sound level readings, dosimeter readings or noise assessment reports).

Typical results from the report are: the operatives are exposed to an Leq(30mins) of 93.7dB. This would equate to an exposure time of less than 30minutes being in excess of the first action level of 80dB equivalent noise dose for an 8 hour period and a 1 hour exposure would exceed the second action level of 85dB.

When taken in the context of a 40 hour working week, if the operatives are only taking part in the glass recycling activities of one 10 hour shift in this noise climate, with the three other shifts being undertaken beneath the first action level, the expected noise dose would decrease to an equivalent of 88dB. Which is still above the threshold for hearing protection to be made available.

Question 4

If you have not completed noise assessments for recycling refuse collection services, can you provide the rationale for not completing these? (Working environmental noise or other hazards).

N/A

Question 5

- I. Do you consider any existing noise induced hearing loss when recruiting a new employee as a recycling refuse loader?
All new staff complete an Occupational Health assessment.
- II. Or, when contracting agency staff, as refuse loaders?
No.

Question 6

- I. Do you provide recycling refuse collection loaders with any personal hearing protection?
Yes.
- II. If yes, what type?
Ultra fit E.A.R 14 provides protection at 2500 Hz of in excess of 24dB protection, but at lower Hz of 80 where traffic noise is at its peak a reduction of less than 1 dB is reached thus enabling the operative to still hear traffic.
- III. If No, the rationale for not? (may be similar to question 4 response).
N/A

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GOING FORWARD

If you are dissatisfied with the information supplied please feel free to contact me on the number above for any queries in relation to this response. Please note that in responding to further enquiries I can only comment on the information contained within this correspondence and cannot provide any further information that may pertain to an additional EIR request.

Please remember to quote the Authority's four digit reference number given at the top of this email in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the above informal review, you have the right to ask for an internal review. A request for a review whether formal or informal should be submitted within two calendar months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to DPO@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk or the address above.

Further details on our appeals and complaints procedure can be found on our website [here](#).

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at accessicoinformation@ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mackenzie Keatley
Information Governance Officer