

Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
NW Leicestershire District Council
Whitwick Road
Coalville
Leicestershire
LE67 3FJ
Telephone: 01530 454763

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 1053

I write further to your email dated 28 December 2019.

Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, explained on our [freedom of information](#) page.

Your request:

Please can you tell me the number of households within your council who as at or around 1st January 2020:-

1. Are receiving Council Tax Discount SMI Disregard.

And of them:-

2. How many have been backdated to the date the GP certified they were suffering from Severe Mental Impairment (SMI).

Our response:

I can confirm that we hold the information you have requested. However, complying with this request would exceed the cost limit of £450. Where we estimate that complying with a request will cost in excess of £450 or 18 hours of officer time we will refuse this request under section 12 of the FOIA.

In this case, we have over 200 live accounts with the disregard and we estimate that each account would take 10 minutes to check for a backdate. This would total more than 33 hours of officer time.

When applying section 12, the Council has a duty to advise customers of ways to reduce the scope of the request. To refine your request and bring it under the cost limit, you could request only the number of accounts receiving the disregard. However, we would like to advise that we will always look to backdate requests where possible.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer the right to re-use the information. UK copyright law allows information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research to be used without permission. Information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting except for in the case of photographs.

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 FOIA 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.