

Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
NW Leicestershire District Council
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Leicestershire
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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 1125

I write further to your email dated 02 March 2020.

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

Your request:

1. The total number of European nationals living within the jurisdiction of the council (ie the total number of EU nationals that the council is aware of in their area) and how this number was arrived at.
2. A copy of all council communications targeting EU nationals specifically since 2016 (including social media ads or posts targeting the EU population)
3. Has the council written to European nationals in its area to inform them of their rights and options following Brexit? If yes, how many times? Please provide the letters.
4. What, if any, preparation has the council undertaken as regards European nationals within their area and the implementation of Brexit? Is there a communication strategy for EU nationals informing them of the impact of Brexit? If yes, please provide me with a copy.
5. Will the council be informing EU nationals that they can vote in the upcoming local elections? How?

Our response:

1. As at 2 March 2020 there are 1,988 EU **electors** registered on the Register of Electors for North West Leicestershire. These are EU nationals who have applied to register to vote and have been successfully verified and are now registered to vote in any elections that their franchise is valid for.
2. Attached is a copy of a letter (1125a) and form that was sent out to all EU electors who were registered on the Register of Electors in April last year inviting them to apply to register to vote in the European Parliamentary Election in May 2019 if they wished to use their vote in North West Leicestershire instead of their home country.

In addition, we have used Facebook and Twitter to share the Government's promotional material regarding the EU settlement scheme. We also have information regarding this on

our website. Since it already available online, this information is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the FOIA.

Please use these links to locate the information you have requested:

- This is us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ThisIsNWLeics/>
- This is us on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/NWLeics>
- Our website - <https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/brexit>

3. Not applicable.
4. Following Brexit all EU nationals who remain validly registered to vote will retain their right to vote in the elections that they are entitled to vote in until we are informed otherwise.
5. There are no planned 'local elections' in North West Leicestershire this May. There will be the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) elections the first Thursday in May and any EU national who is a valid elector will be eligible to vote in these. They will receive a poll card in the same way as any other elector who is eligible to vote the PCC elections. Should there be a by-election or referendum where the franchise entitles an EU national to vote as long as they are registered to vote on the Register of Electors, they will automatically be sent a poll card informing them that an election/referendum will be taking place.

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.