

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

Telephone: 01530 454763

Date: 29 April 2021

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 1551

I write further to your email dated 31 March 2021.

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:

I write as Chair of the Willoughby Waterleys Residents Association (WWRA). The Association has support from almost 90% of the households in the village.

You may know that Willoughby Waterleys is a conservation village located in Harborough District, near to Blaby District and WWRA has a keen interest in the introduction of the policies contained within the Strategic Growth Plan (SGP) and how they may impact the area.

WWRA is aware that the Members Advisory Group (MAG) has been leading on the SGP and it is our understanding, that as Chief Executive you have attended meetings of MAG on behalf of the Council. With decisions ultimately made by Leaders, Councillor Blunt has been copied into this email.

At a recent meeting of the Scrutiny Commission at Leicestershire County Council, WWRA raised a number of questions, including one about MAG's ability to make decisions, given that it is a non-statutory body. The response given was that "it would be for the constituent partner authorities to take decisions through their decision-making processes".

Therefore as MAG is an excluded non-statutory body, a FOI request cannot be made to it. However a FOI request can be made to your Authority.

The purpose of this email therefore, is to submit a formal FOI request with regard to the activities of MAG. Firstly, could you please confirm the terms of reference of MAG and supply copies of constitutional policies. Secondly, please supply copies of minutes of meetings held by the MAG, in the last 12 months.

Our response:

Please see attached document 1551a.pdf for our response as considered by officers across the partnership.

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.

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.

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

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