

From: [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: EIR-17-0457 - Bin Lorry Recommendations
Date: 31 March 2017 15:05:41
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request of 16 March 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

For your reference, in December 2015 Sheriff John Beckett QC made a total of nineteen recommendations following the Fatal Accident Inquiry (FAI) into the Glasgow bin lorry crash <http://www.scotland-judiciary.org.uk/10/1531/Fatal-Accident-Inquiry--Glasgow-bin-lorry-crash>

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Please respond to the following questions under the Freedom of Information Act:

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- 1) What, if any, medical and sickness absence information does the Council require from applicants for waste collection driver positions, before it makes an offer of employment to such individuals?**

As part of the recruitment process, Aberdeen City Council require preferred candidates, for a post which has driving duties as a requirement, to complete a Driver's Health Questionnaire and a HAVS Questionnaire. In addition medical information is picked up from references plus the preferred candidate must provide a code from the DVLA so that a driving licence checks can be undertaken.

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- 2) Does the Council, before making an offer of employment to an applicant for a waste collection driver position, require a medical report from the applicant's GP to establish whether the applicant has any health related driving issues?**

Not automatically, we base our decision whether a medical report from Occupational Health or GP is required comes from the responses on the Driver's Health Questionnaire and HAVS Questionnaire. If responses to questions contained within these questionnaires which are screened by our Occupational Health provider if any response indicates a cause for concern an appointment with our Occupational Health provider for further investigation of the issues concerned.

- 3) What, if any, health related questions are an applicant's referees required to respond to before the Council makes an offer of employment to an individual applying for a waste collection driver position?**

The question asked in our reference requests for all driving posts is as follows;

- Please state the candidates' absence over the last 2 years and provide relevant information regarding the absence record.
- Please detail the nature of any absences which impacted / could have impacted on the individuals' ability to drive.

4) What procedures, if any, does the Council have in place to verify the medical and sickness information provided by applicants for waste collection driver positions and their referees?

If there are questions answered on the Driver's Health and/or HAVS Questionnaires which require further investigation/clarification, these are referred to our Occupational Health provider, who then undertake further investigations which may include requesting a GP report.

5) Since Sheriff John Beckett's recommendations were made in December 2015, has the Council undertaken any review of the medical and sickness information relating to waste collection drivers currently within the Council's employment?

The questions on the reference request has been reviewed and updated following the Fatal Accident Inquiry and now asks for details on any absences which could impact on the individuals' ability to drive. We also introduced the requirement for preferred candidates to provide a code from the DVLA, to enable a driving licence check for all driving posts to be undertaken. Our LGV drivers are also required to sign a mandate to enable us, as the employer, to access real time data through the DVLA. We have also amended contractual obligations to require all Drivers (including Bin Lorry Drivers) to report to the Council any medical condition which affects their ability to drive.

6) How many large goods vehicles does the Council use to collect and process refuse?

Number of large vehicles = 29

7) How many of these vehicles are fitted with The Advanced Emergency Braking System (AEBS)?

Number fitted with AEBS = 18

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Nicky Leiper
Information Compliance Team

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

As the information which you requested is environmental information, as defined under Regulation 2(1) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (the EIRs), ACC considered that it was exempt from release through FOISA, and must therefore give you notice that we are refusing your request under Section 39(2) of FOISA (Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002). However, you have a separate right to access the information which you have requested under Regulation 5 of the EIRs, under which ACC has handled your request.

Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under the EIRs.

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