From: Foi Enquiries
To: [redacted]
Subject: EIR-16-1648 - Drug Litter
Date: 16 January 2017 09:32:31
Attachments: Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your information request of 9 December 2016. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

1) **Please give details of the number of incidents the Council has had to respond to in relation to drug related litter in the following years**

   a) **2014 –** 84 reports made to Environmental Services
   b) **2015 –** 148 reports made to Environmental Services
   c) **2016 –** 93 reports made to Environmental Services

2) **Please give details of how many of the incidents reported in Q1 related to discarded or used syringes over the same period which is; 2014, 2015 and 2016.**

Aberdeen City Council is unable to provide you with this information as it is not routinely recorded at the level of detail requested.

When ACC receives a an initial report of discarded drug litter, only a brief summary of the items is recorded and this summary does not always detail the number of needles or exact nature of the items involved. When the items are subsequently collected, The Environmental Team log the incident but do not always record the number of needles found.

Therefore, there is no way for ACC to accurately answer your request and as such, ACC is unable to provide you with this information as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

3) **Please give details of how many of the incidents reported in Q1 were found during normal refuse collection in the following years**

   a) **2014**
   b) **2015**
   c) **2016**

As explained above, information of this nature is not routinely recorded to the level requested and as such, ACC is unable to provide you with this information. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

4) **Please give details of how many of the incidents reported in Q1 were found during**

normal Park and Open Space Ground Maintenance in the following years

As explained in response to question 2, information of this nature is not routinely recorded at the level requested. All reports to Environmental Services reports relate to both grounds, streets and public toilets and these figures are taken as one. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

5) **Please give details of how many incidents reported in Q1 were found by members of the Public in Streets, Public Toilets etc. in the following years, 2014,2015 and 2016?**

As explained in response to question 4, all reports to Environmental Services reports relate to both grounds, streets and public toilets and these figures are taken as one and not recorded at the level requested. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

6) **How many employees were trained to deal with drug related litter in;**

2014 and 2015 – All relevant staff trained, however, no records are held which would allow ACC to identify the exact number of staff who received this training. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

2016 – ACC currently has 40 staff trained to deal with drug related litter.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Nicky Leiper
Information Compliance Officer

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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