

Dear

I am writing to you in reply to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Nottinghamshire County Council. I have the following information.

1. An asset list of all current petrol and battery powered handheld machinery used within your inventory with information about the make and model numbers of units and age per machine.
See the attached spreadsheets.

1a. If the council has not purchased any new battery powered handheld outdoor machinery when the need to buy more equipment has arisen (since July 2018), what was the reason to continue purchasing petrol powered handheld machinery?

We do purchase battery powered equipment where budget/costs permit and if they are suitable to carry out our contractual responsibilities.

2. The total amount of fuel in litres purchased since 24th July 2018 for use in two-stroke outdoor powered equipment as listed in 1.

Unfortunately, we do not hold records to this level of detail.

3. How often are the machines listed in 1 regularly serviced?

All machines are serviced as per manufactures recommended instructions via our in-house Workshops service.

4. How many schools and health trusts facilities are maintained using the equipment listed in Information Request 1 for tasks such as leaf blowing, tree surgery, brush cutting and hedge trimming?

We provide a Landscapes service to over 200 Schools across Nottinghamshire.

5. Do you keep records of usage of machinery for the purpose of hand arm vibration regulations, if so please can you detail the hours of usage associated with each machine as well as how many people are trained to operate these machines for council related work throughout the year?

Hand Arm Vibration records are kept in line with Corporate Health and Safety Guidelines. Machine usage can vary considerably depending on the task and time of the Year. Operatives work an 8.5 hour day in the Summer season (6 months) and a 4 day working week in the Winter season (6 months).

6. Does the local authority monitor the occupational health risks associated with operator's exposure to the inhalation of Particulate Matter (PM2.5) emissions from two-stroke machinery?

All individual operatives are monitored and assessed in relation to their well-being through our Occupational Health Service.

If you have any queries or concerns then please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information Team, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail foi@nottscc.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

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