

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Information request under the
Freedom of Information Act 2000

Reference Number	FOI/23/0897	Response Date: 15/11/2023
Your Question:	Requestor: Fraser Rickatson	
<p>Environmental, Social and Governance Freedom of Information Request.</p> <p><u>Pre-amble</u></p> <p>To enable care providers to work effectively with Local Authorities (LAs) to meet their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) commitments, the following information request looks to establish key information critical for Adult Social Care (ASC) providers to support LA to meet those commitments.</p> <p><u>Questions</u></p> <p>Q1. Please provide your LA definition for “local” in regard to the procurement of goods and services. <i>Note: if you do not have a specific definition, please offer guidance to ASC providers as to how they should consider this in regard to supporting your LA.</i> Local in Procurement terms is classed as Tees Valley.</p> <p>Q2. Please provide your LA definition for “minority” in instances such as minority-owned businesses and similar contexts. <i>Note: if you do not have a specific definition, please offer guidance to ASC providers as to how they should consider this in regard to supporting your LA.</i></p> <p>Q3. Please state any energy commitments your LA are implementing over the next 1-3 years, and what you require from ASC providers to help achieve your LA commitments to net zero carbon ambitions etc.</p> <p>Q4. Please can you provide a copy of, or a link to your current ESG policy statement, guidance, support and/or commitments or requirements as an LA.</p> <p>Q5. Please provide information relating to any requirements necessary in respect of ESG for ASC providers to work with your LA, and state any weighting or scoring this may have on your decision to work with such ASC providers now or in the future.</p>		
<p>Our Response:</p> <p>We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Council does hold the information requested.</p> <p>Q1. Please provide your LA definition for “local” in regard to the procurement of goods and services. <i>Note: if you do not have a specific definition, please offer guidance to ASC providers as to how they should consider this in regard to supporting your LA.</i></p> <p>A1. Local in Procurement terms is classed as Tees Valley – TS1 to TS27.</p> <p>Q2. Please provide your LA definition for “minority” in instances such as minority-owned businesses and similar contexts. <i>Note: if you do not have a specific definition, please offer guidance to ASC providers as to how they should consider this in regard to supporting your LA.</i></p>		

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A2. The council does not have a specific definition for “minority”. The organisation is guided by the Equality Act and the Public Sector Equality Duty. As such, we would recommend that anybody working with the organisation is familiar with it.

Q3. Please state any energy commitments your LA are implementing over the next 1-3 years, and what you require from ASC providers to help achieve your LA commitments to net zero carbon ambitions etc.

A3. We would need ASC providers to operate efficiently, to measure and understand their impact on the environment and take the steps needed to reduce it as much as possible, including:-

- improving the energy efficiency of buildings,
- actively monitoring energy consumption and reducing it as much as possible,
- use of renewable energy,
- use of energy efficient equipment,
- use of electric or other green vehicles/methods of transport, reducing travel where possible and route optimisation,
- educating employees on the role they play in becoming an efficient business,
- reducing waste (reduce consumption, reuse, and recycle),
- improving sustainability in their supply chain – reducing single use plastics, using recycled and recyclable products, considering the types of products/services and the green credentials of their suppliers,
- digitisation of business processes,
- monitoring and reducing the use of water where possible

Q4. Please can you provide a copy of, or a link to your current ESG policy statement, guidance, support and/or commitments or requirements as an LA.

A4. The council does not have an ESG policy statement.

Q5. Please provide information relating to any requirements necessary in respect of ESG for ASC providers to work with your LA, and state any weighting or scoring this may have on your decision to work with such ASC providers now or in the future.

A5. In relation to procurement processes, ESG information/requirements would be agreed per individual procurement process as per the specification.

Details of any attachments:

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Details of any Exemptions Applied:

Exemption Type		Justification required	Indicated if applicable to your request
Section 12	To comply would exceed the cost limit	None. <i>Provide advice on how to narrow the request</i>	
Section 21	Accessible by other Means	None. <i>Provide link to the information</i>	
Section 22	Intended for future publication	None. <i>Provide estimated publication date</i>	
Section 30	Information held for the purpose of investigation	Public Interest Test <i>Application of test below</i>	
Section 31	Law enforcement	Public Interest Test <i>Application of test below</i>	
Section 40(1)	Personal Information of the requestor	None.	
Section 40(2)	Personal data of another person	None.	
Section 43	Prejudice to commercial interests	Public Interest Test <i>Application of test below</i>	

*Please list any other applicable exemption

Application of the Public Interest Test if required:

Review Procedure:

We hope that the response provided above satisfies your request for information. However, if you're not happy with the outcome of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 days of receiving the response.

Internal reviews will be carried out by a Senior Legal Manager, who will not have been involved in your initial request. A response will be provided within 20 working days of your request for a review (or 40 working days in exceptional circumstances).

To request an internal review, please email Informationgovernance@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or write to:

FOI Officer
 Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
 Information Governance Team
 Resources Directorate
 Redcar & Cleveland House
 Kirkleatham Street
 Redcar
 TS10 1RT

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If you are unhappy following your internal review outcome, you are free to make a complaint either to the Council or to the Information Commissioner.

Details of the Council's corporate complaints procedure can be found on our website at www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

The Information Commissioner is an independent person who has responsibility for overseeing the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. More details can be obtained from the Information Commissioner's Office website at www.ico.org.uk

If you are escalating your complaint to the ICO please visit their website at www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

FOI Office Contact Details:

FOI Officer
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Information Governance Team
Resources Directorate
Redcar & Cleveland House
Kirkleatham Street
Redcar
TS10 1RT

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