FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 563/17

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request/Response:

1. How many roadside ash trees are there within your council boundary? If a total number is not known, have any surveys of numbers of roadside ash been carried out within your boundary and if so, what were the results? (For clarity, by “roadside ash” I am referring to ash trees (any Fraxinus species) that are close enough to a road that they could potentially fall onto or drop debris onto the road.)

   Answer: We do not hold this information. Rutland County council trees are made up of 1974 recorded trees.

2. How many urban ash trees are there within your boundary, and what is the breakdown of these between public and private property? If this is not known, how many trees of any species are there within your boundary?

   Answer: Rutland County Council does not hold this information. We have 5837 recorded trees

3. If known, what is the total area of parks, gardens, greens and common land within your boundary?

   Answer: Rutland County Council does not hold this information.

4. What was the total amount of money spent by your council on insuring trees in the last financial year (2016-17)? And what was the total amount spent on public liability insurance overall?

   Answer: The insurance premium for Public Liability Insurance in 2016-17 was £62,748.52, including Insurance Premium Tax of £9.5%. This premium is not broken down into specific areas and so we are unable to provide a premium cost specifically for trees.

Finally, I anticipate that the results of this work may be of interest to local authorities and therefore I would like to provide the opportunity for interested parties to see a pre-publication draft, when it is complete, for information or comments. If anyone in your
council (for instance, the Tree Officer) would like to be contacted about this, I would be grateful if you could put me in touch.

You are free to use any documents supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. The documents may also be used for news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing the documents or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner, where copyright exists. Such a request would be considered separately in accordance with the relevant Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005 and is not automatic. Therefore, no permission is implied in the re-use of this information, until such a request to re-use it has been made and agreed, subject to any appropriate conditions. Any request to re-use the information should be made to me at the address below.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Head of Corporate Governance, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Corporate Support Team, Rutland County Council