

Ref No: FOI 4558
Date: 24/02/21
Subject: Waste & Recycling

REQUEST

I read 'Recovery of up to 30% of waste (primarily biodegradable materials) is anticipated to commence soon. This material will be separated and treated at a specialist off-site treatment facility to produce an organic soil type material, suitable for forestry use.' on this website <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/sustainability/sustainability-practice/environmental-management/waste-and-recycling/>

I wish to know:

1. May I know what kind of facilities is this: Is it a composting facility, waste to energy facility etc. Does it accept food waste, or just gardening waste? According to my knowledge, the Lancaster town council replied saying there is no food waste recovery facility around Lancaster and there isn't a plan to build any soon. Is this facility going to be used as a food recovery facility?
2. When will it be completed?
3. Is it privately owned or university owned? How is it funded?
4. Where is it located?
5. I also wish to know how much money the university gives Green Lancaster as funding each year? How much of it goes to EcoHub the society to run the garden.
6. How much money is spent on maintaining the university ground, in terms of fertiliser? And what types of fertiliser are used?

RESPONSE

1. Unfortunately, this information on the website is out of date. The waste treatment facility in question (the former Global Renewables Site at Thornton) no longer operates this process and so none of the University waste that goes into the general waste bins is processed to produce compost.

2. N/A – please see answer to question 1
3. The previously privately-owned site (Global Renewables) at Thornton is now owned and operated by Lancashire County Council.
4. Thornton Cleveleys
5. Green Lancaster had a budget of £72,724 in 2020-21. Of this, £62,474 is provided by the University's Facilities department, £7,500 from the Student's Union (LUSU) and £2,750 from project income. In a typical year, Green Lancaster spend 10% of the Green Lancaster funding directly on the ECOHub, which student staff wages and project costs to support the activities (for example equipment and seeds). There are also indirect costs relating to the time spent on ECOhub by the Green Lancaster manager.

As an autonomous student society Edible Campus do not receive direct funding as such, however they do benefit from the investments made in the site and equipment and other items purchase.

6. Fertiliser is only used on the sports pitches. As part of the annual over-seeding post-season work, the cost for the pre-seed fertiliser is £2,500. We also, but not on an annual basis, apply a general NPK summer slow release fertiliser at a cost of £2,000

Your request i.d. is: FOI 4558. Please quote this in all enquiries.

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Process for Making a Complaint

If you feel the service you have received does not meet our aims or your expectations, please write to:

Head of Governance Services
University House
Lancaster University
Bailrigg

Lancaster
LA1 4YW

Email: information-governance@lancaster.ac.uk

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