

04 February 2010

Mr T Jones
request-23776-3a642df1@whatdotheyknow.com

FOI Ref: FOI10-0001 RESP

Dear Mr Jones

Re. your request for information regarding North Staffordshire Regeneration Partnership Audits:

I am writing to confirm that Advantage West Midlands holds information relevant to your request which is replicated below together with our response.

You wrote:

a) *"Has the withheld money now been paid by AWM and what was the amount withheld?"*

Response:

As stated in our previous response the money will continue to be withheld subject to independent final confirmation of satisfactory implementation of all actions in the Audit action plan with NSRP. Circa £800,000 is being withheld.

b) *"On the Action plan items 10 and 11 can you provide any further details eg consultant role, consultant rates, total spend being queried?"*

Response:

Item 10 relates to the Project Director procured to develop the six phase Central Business District project which aims to provide a quality office quarter in Stoke on Trent estimated to ultimately cost circa £200 million of largely private sector investment. The Project Director was procured for £850 per day and the Agency contribution totalled £183,000.

Item 11 relates to the Interim Head of Transport role which the Agency supported as one element of a much larger project to develop the North Staffordshire Integrated Transport Strategy, in this instance funding was not based on a consultant rate however; the Agency contribution to the development of the overall strategy is circa £240,000

c) *"Could I be provided with a copy of the report following the revisit this month?"*

Response: The Agency will need to consider this request at the end of February when we anticipate that the information will become available. We may be able to release an executive summary, as



before. We may need to consult with third parties and to consider the public interest test prior to release of the information requested. You will be advised of our decision when we have been able to consider these matters.

If you have any queries about our response please contact me quoting the reference FOI10-0001.

Under the Freedom of Information Act you have the right of complaint. If you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request, or if you are unhappy with our response, you may appeal via our Complaints Procedure, a copy of which is attached. If you are still dissatisfied after pursuing our Complaints Procedure, then under Section 50 of the Act, you are entitled to appeal to the Information Commissioner (Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, telephone: 01625 545700, fax: 01625 524510).

Yours sincerely

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