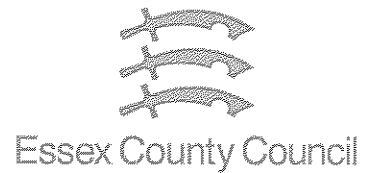


Essex Legal Services
New Bridge House
60-68 New London Road
Chelmsford
Essex CM2 0PD



Mr T R Nunn

Our Ref: DP/FOIR/7

Your Ref:

Date: 16 July 2009

By email:

Request-5729-

2f3760c5@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Nunn

I refer to your request for a review of the handling of your request under the Freedom of Information Act. Having reviewed the file I note that your letter of 18th February did not receive a response. I am sorry about this. It is true that:

"the Monitoring Officer has a duty to prepare a report if it appears to him that ...any omission by the authority...constitutes or may give rise to...a contravention of any enactment, rule of law or statutory code of practice, or maladministration..[Section 5 Local Government and Housing Act 1989]"

The complaints that are made to the Local Government Ombudsman are recorded and the issues that are disclosed when the Local Government Ombudsman investigates are likewise recorded and reported to the relevant directorate and to the Corporate Leadership Team of which the Monitoring Officer is a member. However, the information that you have requested is not recorded centrally. This is why it is not possible to give you the information that you have requested, as was communicated to you in the letter of 26th January. I would repeat the offer that was made to you in that letter to discuss ways that the cost of meeting your request could be brought below the £450 limit.

If you are not satisfied with this response please let me know and if I am unable to resolve the issue immediately I will explain our complaints procedure.

If after following the complaints procedure you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to ask the Information Commissioner to review our decision. You can contact him at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, telephone 01625 545700.

Yours sincerely



Alex Hallam
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