

FOI requests

Email 1 – received 3 March 2020

1. Can you explain why no accounts for this charity [The Central Gurdwara – 258324] have been produced, even though you have opened a statutory investigation?
2. Which trustees of this charity are responsible for the failure to produce accounts?
3. How can donors to this charity be confident that funds are not being mismanaged?

Email 2 – received 3 March 2020

4. This is a request relating to charity number 258324 for THE CENTRAL GURDWARA (BRITISH ISLES) LONDON KHALSA JATHA. Have any forensic accountants been involved to check whether funds have been misappropriated by the committee (past and present)?

Email 3 – received 3 March 2020

5. Can you please confirm whether rumours of a substantial number of new members [of 258324] is true, as there are serious concerns that some of those standing for elections have created many new members with the sole purpose of winning the elections. There have also been rumours of free transport being organised to enable these new members to vote.
6. As part of the FOI, can you provide the total numbers of members for each of the last six years. Can you also provide me with details of exactly how many new members joined over each of the last twelve months?

Email 4 – received 3 March 2020

7. Under the FOI act, can you please confirm whether full accounts have been prepared showing how much money was donated and how it was spent by the Virdee Foundation. Can you also confirm whether any taxable benefits or VAT refunds were requested by The Central Gurdwara, or were these recovered by the Virdee Foundation?

Email 5 – received 4 March 2020

8. How were the membership fees charged by The Central Gurdwara (British Isles) London Khalsa Jatha (258324) over the past year remitted? Was it in cash or via payment sources that can be traced back to the individual members? What amounts were remitted as cash and means traceable to the individual members?
9. Are the Charity Commission aware of rumours that a large number of new members were registered recently, with the sole purpose of voting for 15 members of the charity so that they can take full control of it and its assets, which include expensive residential properties?
10. Are the Charity Commission involved in checking how the charitable donations from the Virdee Foundation were made, to ensure that the purchases were made by the The Central Gurdwara (British Isles) London Khalsa Jatha (258324) and not by the Virdee Foundation?
11. When will The Central Gurdwara (British Isles) London Khalsa Jatha (258324) be producing accounts? These are several years out of date.

Email 6 – received 5 March 2020

12. During the past few years, the Virdee Foundation (1144310) has donated a significant amount of money (in excess of £1m) into the The Central Gurdwara (British Isles) London Khalsa Jatha (258324). However, the annual accounts for the Virdee Foundation do not show this. Can you explain why?
13. Can you also explain why no accounts have been produced by The Central Gurdwara (British Isles) London Khalsa Jatha (258324) for over 5 years? This is clearly a concern and it is shocking that in spite of the investigation, no accounts have been produced. Why is this?

Email 7 – received 7 March 2020

14. Have the past and present trustees of the Central Gurdwara been investigated to check whether they have been donated cars free of charge by the Virdee Foundation?

Email 8 – received 7 March 2020

15. This FOI request concerns The Central Gurdwara (British Isles) London Khalsa Jatha (258324). Have any of the trustees of this charity recorded receiving any gifts from The Virdee Foundation over the past five years?