



## South Tyneside Council

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015  
Our Ref: FOI 15 16110

M Lewis  
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Dear Sir or Madam

### **Freedom of Information Request**

I refer to your Freedom of Information Request received on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Your request asked for the following information:

#### **Your Request**

This request is being made to make the public at large and people in each authority aware of which councils are the worst offenders or the better examples when it comes to bullying in the workplace. All councils have very similar anti-bullying / dignity at work policies, but there seems to be a difference in the level of bullying. This is intended to statistically show those differences.

- 1) How many employees of your authority have made an official complaint of harassment and bullying at work since the 1st April 2009?
- 2) How many of these complaints were upheld in favour of the complainant?
- 3) How many of those which were not upheld in favour of the complainant went on to Appeal?
- 4) How many of those that went to Appeal were found to favour the complainant?
- 5) How many complaints went on to an Employment Tribunal?
- 6) How many of these were found to uphold the complaint?
- 7) Out of how many of those allegations (the number given to question 1) did the complainant of bullying claim that the bullies were telling lies?
- 8) How many staff does your authority have and what is the current population within your authority's area?

Information Governance, Town Hall and Civic Offices,  
Westoe Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE33 2RL

## **Council's Response**

We can confirm the following information with regards your request above.

1) How many employees of your authority have made an official complaint of harassment and bullying at work since the 1st April 2009?

**8**

2) How many of these complaints were upheld in favour of the complainant?

**1 part substantial**

3) How many of those which were not upheld in favour of the complainant went on to Appeal?

**None**

4) How many of those that went to Appeal were found to favour the complainant?

**None**

5) How many complaints went on to an Employment Tribunal?

**None**

6) How many of these were found to uphold the complaint?

**None**

7) Out of how many of those allegations (the number given to question 1) did the complainant of bullying claim that the bullies were telling lies?

**1**

8) How many staff does your authority have and what is the current population within your authority's area?

**There are 5,309 staff including schools, 2,611 staff excluding schools. The current population 148,400**

## **Copyright Procedure**

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## **Internal Review Procedure**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of this enquiry you can invoke the Council's internal review procedures to ask for an independent review of your request. All such requests must be sent to us within 4 weeks and must clearly state in writing your reference number and your reasons for your request for internal review.

The Information Governance Team can be contacted at the following address:  
Information Governance Team, Town Hall and Civic Buildings, Westoe Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE33 2RL.

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

Should you remain dissatisfied with the final outcome of the internal review process you can write to the Information Commissioner to ask for an independent review. The Information Commissioner is the Government's Independent Body responsible for overseeing the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Please do note the ICO will only review cases that have exhausted the Council's internal review procedures. All correspondence to the ICO must quote the Council's reference number and your reasons for your appeal.

The ICO's contact details are as follows: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF. More information can be found on the ICO's website at [www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk).

If you have any further queries about this matter then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

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**Information Governance**

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