



**Brighton & Hove City Council**  
Information Governance Team  
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Mr Rob Heale

FOI Reference: 7443397  
Direct Dial: 01273 295959  
Email: foicasex@xxxx.xxxxhton-hove.gov.uk  
Date: 23 November 2020

Dear Mr Heale

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for your request for information to Brighton & Hove City Council ('the council') that was received on 29 October 2020. We have now processed your request and our response is below.

#### **Your request:**

***"Please answer the following questions under the Freedom Of Information Act:-***

- 1. What is the Role and Job Description of the Party Political Advisers/assistants employed by the City Council?***
- 2. What is the Cost of those Party Political Advisers/assistants?***
- 3. How many Advisers do each Party Political Group have?***
- 4. What is the cost of administration for those members of staff?"***

#### **Our response:**

In processing your request we liaised with colleagues within Democratic Services as they would hold the information in relation to your request were this information to be held by the council.

We can confirm that some of the information you have requested is held by the council. The information we hold is detailed below and attached.

#### ***1. What is the Role and Job Description of the Party Political advisers/assistants employed by the City Council?***

Please see attached job description and person specification for a Political Assistant.

#### ***2. What is the Cost of those Party Political Advisers/assistants?***

The salary for a political assistant ranges from £32,910 to a maximum of £34,986 which is set nationally for all political assistants.

**3. How many Advisers do each Party Political Group have?**

Each political Group on the Council with 10% or more of the seats held, i.e. a minimum of 6 seats for Brighton & Hove can have a political assistant, although there is also maximum of 3 appointments per authority currently. For Brighton & Hove that means we have one for each of the 3 Groups represented on the Council.

**4. What is the cost of administration for those members of staff?"**

We do not hold this information. The political assistants are classified as officers and therefore report to the Head of Democratic Services but essentially take their daily work commitments from the Group Leadership and it is not possible to quantify the cost of administering these roles.

Please quote the reference number **7443397** in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an Internal Review. Internal Review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of receipt of this response and should be addressed to:

[foicases@mail.brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:foicases@mail.brighton-hove.gov.uk)

or by post to the address at the top of this letter.

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the Internal Review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF.  
Telephone: 0303 123 1113  
Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

We will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team

*Please note that due to the current Coronavirus (Covid 19) pandemic, we are unable to respond to or receive telephone calls or hard copy correspondence. Please contact us via email should you have any queries.*