



## South Tyneside Council

Date: 28th May 2019  
Our Ref: FOI 19 19502

Simon Buck  
[request-571227-ba19d721@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-571227-ba19d721@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Mr Buck

### **Freedom of Information Request**

I refer to your Freedom of Information Request received on the 25th April 2019. I apologise for the delay in providing the information.

Your request asked for the following information:

#### **Your Request**

Can you inform me under the freedom of information act. How many "extra ordinary meetings" have been held for elected members to discuss the outcome of a Local Government Ombudsman's (LGO) report within a week of the LGO issuing its final report? I wish to know the number of meetings for each year since 2010.

#### **Council's Response**

**Since 2010, one (1) Extraordinary meeting of Borough Council has been convened to discuss a Public Interest Report issued by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO).**

**On 13 February 2018, the LGSCO issued his final Public Interest Report, which made recommendations in respect of a complaint by Mr Y, regarding the process followed during an investigation into his actions, where Mr Y was found to have committed abuse against a vulnerable older person.**

**In accordance with the Local Government Act 1974, section 31(2), Borough Council were required to consider the Public Interest Report and provide evidence of this to the LGSCO.**

**On 26 March 2018 the Public Interest Report was presented to an Extraordinary Meeting of Borough Council as required by the above legislation. This was 6 weeks after receipt of the final report.**

**Since 2010, the Council has received no (zero) other Public Interest Reports by the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) or Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO).**

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

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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, 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 2018 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.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

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

Yours sincerely

### **Information Governance**

Tel: 0191 424 6539

Email: [foi@southtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:foi@southtyneside.gov.uk)

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Westoe Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE33 2RL