



request-552344-68209765@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Ms Mullen

Freedom of Information Request 670921

Thank you for your recent request received 15 February 2019. Your request was actioned under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in which you requested the following information –

Question1 -As Mayor Anderson always took his full salary as Leader of the City Council, and according to Karen Lewis, took his full salary as Mayor, except for 3 months [which is yet to be evidenced] - please supply all information that explains why Karen Lewis ignored this allegedly false statement in her review findings

Question 2 - In the case that she didn't understand, perhaps didn't read the court papers in their entirety, - please supply all information that explains what course of action Ms Lewis is now going to take in light of this second alleged false statement made to Judge Franey

Question 3 - Media reports and a Council doc make it clear that Mayor Anderson repeatedly made the statement that he never took his full Mayoral salary. Please supply the Council doc which puts the record straight and informs councillors when he did, indeed, begin to take his full Mayoral salary.

Response:

Liverpool City Council would advise as follows –

1. With regard to the comments made in your preamble to this request as regards the Employment Tribunal, an initial point to make is that the allowance paid to Mayor Anderson was not one of the material issues outlined by the Tribunal Judge.

Notwithstanding that technical point, a review was undertaken by the then Head of Audit to establish the position. That review was very detailed and included sight of copious contemporaneous notes taken at the tribunal hearings by an associate Solicitor from the external law firm, which represented Mayor Anderson. Mayor Anderson agreed to waive his solicitor/client privilege, limited to the facilitation of this review, in order that the City Council could access those notes.

The evidence given by Mayor Anderson makes it clear that his position on the allowance changed following his dismissal from Chesterfield High School with the consequent impact upon his personal financial position.

It is on the basis of all the evidence including the above that the review was concluded.

2. Further to the response at (1) above, the allowance paid to Mayor Anderson was not one of the material issues outlined by the Tribunal Judge. Therefore, if the issue was not material, then any inaccuracy in relation to it would not come within the definition of perjury.

Notwithstanding that technical point, the review was still undertaken to establish the evidence given in the light of your allegations that Mayor Anderson's evidence had been misleading.

That review was very detailed and has included sight of copious contemporaneous notes taken at the tribunal hearings by an associate Solicitor from the external law firm, which represented Mayor Anderson. Mayor Anderson agreed to waive his solicitor/client privilege, limited to the facilitation of this review, in order that the City Council could access those notes.

The evidence given by Mayor Anderson makes it clear that his position on the allowance changed following his dismissal from Chesterfield High School with the consequent impact upon his personal financial position.

On this basis the then Head of Audit concluded the review on the basis of all available evidence. In the absence of any additional evidence there is no further review to be undertaken.

3. The Mayor of Liverpool did not take the full allowance entitlement afforded to the role of Elected Mayor until the point when he was dismissed from his paid employment.

This concludes our response.

The City Council will consider appeals, referrals or complaints in respect of your Freedom of Information Act 2000 and you must submit these in writing to Informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk within 28 days of receiving your response. The matter will be dealt with by an officer who was not previously involved with the response and we will look to provide a response within 40 days.

If you remain dissatisfied you may also apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision about whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Information Commissioner's website is www.ico.gov.uk and the postal address and telephone numbers are:- Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK95AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113. Email – mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk (they advise that their email is not secure)

I trust this information satisfies your enquiry.

Yours sincerely

A Lewis

Angela Lewis
Information Team

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