Freedom of Information Request 1156-1819

Request

I have noted that in their latest list of members the BPA (British Parking Association) lists yourselves:

https://www.britishparking.co.uk/BPA-Members

The BPA is not a highly regarded organisation by many motorists and seen as ineffective in regulating the private parking operators who make up the bulk of its membership; MPs in the House of Commons have also echoed these concerns.

Therefore, can you please provide the following information about your membership:

- The date you first become a member.
- The reason for becoming the member.
- How it benefits your residents by being a member.
- Benefits received by being a member of the BPA.
- The annual costs for being a member of the BPA.

Response

- **The date you first become a member.**
  The exact record and documentation of the date is not known. However, an employee of the Council who has been a member of the Parking Services Team for many years is of the opinion that the Council joined the BPA in the late 1990s.

- **The reason for becoming the member.**
  As stated above no records are available regarding reasons for becoming a member.

- **How it benefits your residents by being a member.**
  Unfortunately, this information is not available as there are no minutes of meetings/emails etc. where such reasons are expressed.

- **Benefits received by being a member of the BPA.**
  Under Section 21 of The Act it is appropriate for the Council to point out that the BPA publishes its membership benefits and so this information is readily available to the public online and this can be viewed via the following link:

https://www.britishparking.co.uk/Join-the-BPA/Member-Benefits

- **The annual costs for being a member of the BPA.**
  Under Section 21 of The Act it is appropriate for the Council to point out that this information is available on the BPA website via the following link:
  https://www.britishparking.co.uk/write/Documents/BPA/membership/October_BPA_fees_sheet_2018-19.pdf