

Portfolio Development (Grenfell)

Town Hall,
Hornton Street,
W8 7NX

Torbjoern Joerstad

FOI Reference: 688997
Email: xxx@xxxx.xxx.x
Date: 4 December 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your recent request to the Council. You asked to be provided with the following information:

I wish to inquire about support initiatives for those affected by the Grenfell tower fire. I am requesting:

- 1) A list of all programs, initiatives and services available for those affected by the Grenfell tower fire.*
- 2) The total amount of money spent on programs, initiatives and services aimed at supporting and recovering the community affected by the Grenfell tower fire, from 14 June 2017 until now (November 2018).*
- 3) Additionally, what steps has the Council taken in providing programs for arts and culture (e.g. music, dance, painting workshops etc.) to help residents and others affected cope with stress and trauma?*
- 4) Are any of the programs, initiatives or services listed in request 1) specifically aimed at relief through arts and culture? If so, which ones?*

Response

I can confirm that the information requested is held by Royal Borough Kensington and Chelsea. I have detailed below the information that is being released to you.

Responses to Questions 1 and 4 are attached. The services which have been highlighted in yellow are those that include arts and cultural activities.

Question 2

The Council considers that some of the information requested is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (Reasonably Accessible), which provides an exemption from the duty to disclose information which is accessible to the applicant by other means.

The spend information for 2017/18 is published in 17/18 Accounts page 58 under the heading Social Care and Wellbeing.

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/atoms/files/2017-18%20Statement%20of%20Accounts%20AUDITED%20FINAL.pdf>

The budgeted spend for the remaining period requested is £ 8,124,767. Please note that due to a change in financial systems and a freeze on transactions for November, 2018-19 financial year data is based on budget which is anticipated to be spent during the year.

Question 3

In the immediate aftermath of the Grenfell Tower tragedy on 14 June 2017, there was significant need across a diverse population in North Kensington. Local community organisations and volunteers had quickly mobilised a variety of support but there was an urgent need for funding to expand the response further. In order to support the relief efforts happening on the ground the Council set-up an Emergency Funding Programme. This was a cross-departmental emergency grants programme established to help provide immediate financial support to organisations involved in the response efforts. Of the organisations funded since then, there are 9 providers with services offers that includes trauma relief through arts and cultural activities, which includes the following:

- Therapeutic Art therapy
- Arts and crafts workshops
- Drama and Music workshops
- Textiles-based workshops
- Cultural (Carnival-related) activities
- Circus and dance activities

Approximately £900,000 of funding was awarded to groups specifically offering relief through arts and culture.

You can also find more information on the Grenfell Support website <https://grenfellsupport.org.uk/>

All current services and activities are listed on there as well as publications we have produced on housing and the A-Z are there. This includes support provided by partners.

We publicise the weekly Curve programme in the GS newsletter (all copies on the website) and on the Google Calendar on the website. All local support and activities (we are aware of or informed about) are also publicised on our Twitter feed @GrenfellSupport.

Please quote the reference number 688997 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 two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Information Management Team
The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
The Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX
Email: xxx@xxxx.xxx.xx

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: 01625 545 700
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours faithfully

Information Management Team

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

