

From:



Subject:

FOI request/trade unions

Date:

04 October 2024 15:28:42

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Dear Sir,

Please advise:

1. The details of any office accommodation your organisation provides to staff to carry out trade union business. Please include details of:

- space measured in square feet
- how much of this space is contained within entirely separate buildings (i.e. occupied solely by staff carrying out trade union business)
- whether a professional valuation of the market rental value of the space has been sought either in-house or externally, and if so, what the valuation of the space was
- any charges the council levy for office space given to trade unions.

2. Do you deduct trade union subscriptions for any of your employees via payroll (sometimes known as the "check off" system)? If so, do you charge a fee to the trade unions concerned for providing this service?

3. With regard to trade union facility time, please provide the total cost of facility time from your pay bill for the financial year 2023/24 and the budget for the current financial year. Please also advise the current number of employees that you fund to be union officials, measured as full time equivalents? (For guidance on definitions please refer to the Government's Transparency Code for local government: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-transparency-code-2015/local-government-transparency-code-2015>)

4. Please advise any estimates for other costs met for those staff on trade union facility time apart from salaries - including travel expenses, office supplies, telephone expenses and energy bills.

Best wishes,



From: [Hendry, Angela](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI Acknowledgment
Date: 07 October 2024 13:12:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

FOI Ref: 87761/24

Thank you for your request for information, dated 4 October 2024, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

1. The details of any office accommodation your organisation provides to staff to carry out trade union business. Please include details of:

- space measured in square feet
- how much of this space is contained within entirely separate buildings (i.e. occupied solely by staff carrying out trade union business)
- whether a professional valuation of the market rental value of the space has been sought either in-house or externally, and if so, what the valuation of the space was
- any charges the council levy for office space given to trade unions.

2. Do you deduct trade union subscriptions for any of your employees via payroll (sometimes known as the "check off" system)? If so, do you charge a fee to the trade unions concerned for providing this service?

3. With regard to trade union facility time, please provide the total cost of facility time from your pay bill for the financial year 2023/24 and the budget for the current financial year. Please also advise the current number of employees that you fund to be union officials, measured as full time equivalents? (For guidance on definitions please refer to the Government's Transparency Code for local government: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-transparency-code-2015/local-government-transparency-code-2015>)

4. Please advise any estimates for other costs met for those staff on trade union facility time apart from salaries - including travel expenses, office supplies, telephone expenses and energy bills.

The Commission aims to respond promptly and within the statutory deadline of 20 working days set by the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please expect a response by 1 November 2024.

In some cases a fee may be payable and if that is the case I will let you know. A fees notice will be issued to you, and you will be required to pay before I will proceed to deal with your request.

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me on the details provided below. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Kind regards

Angela Hendry

Angela Hendry

HR Lead

7th Floor

3 Bunhill Row

London

EC1Y 8YZ

0330 500 1264



How are we doing? Click [here](#) to give us your views.

From: [Hendry, Angela](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI Response
Date: 25 October 2024 11:01:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

FOI Ref: 87761/24

Thank you for your request for information, dated 4 October 2024, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please see our response to each question below under each question.

You requested:

1. The details of any office accommodation your organisation provides to staff to carry out trade union business. Please include details of:

- space measured in square feet
- how much of this space is contained within entirely separate buildings (i.e. occupied solely by staff carrying out trade union business)
- whether a professional valuation of the market rental value of the space has been sought either in-house or externally, and if so, what the valuation of the space was
- any charges the council levy for office space given to trade unions.

This information is not held as we do not provide any specific office accommodation to staff to carry out trade union business.

2. Do you deduct trade union subscriptions for any of your employees via payroll (sometimes known as the "check off" system)? If so, do you charge a fee to the trade unions concerned for providing this service?

We deduct trade union subscriptions through our payroll, but we do not charge the trade union for this service.

3. With regard to trade union facility time, please provide the total cost of facility time from your pay bill for the financial year 2023/24 and the budget for the current financial year. Please also advise the current number of employees that you fund to be union officials, measured as full time equivalents? (For guidance on definitions please refer to the Government's Transparency Code for local government: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-transparency-code-2015/local-government-transparency-code-2015>)

This information is not held. We are a small organisation and, while our trade union representative and union members are entitled to time out of their working day for union meetings, we do not fund any employees to be union officials.

4. Please advise any estimates for other costs met for those staff on trade union facility time apart from salaries - including travel expenses, office supplies, telephone expenses and energy bills.

This information is not held, and we are consequently not able to provide any estimate.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the reference number above in any correspondence.

If you are unhappy with the response or the way in which your request was dealt with and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to:

Kathryn Trower
Director of Corporate Services
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
7th Floor
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

Kind regards

Angela Hendry

Angela Hendry

HR Lead
7th Floor
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

0330 500 1264



How are we doing? Click [here](#) to give us your views.

