

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

### **You asked:**

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I seek the following information: the cost of managing the disputes between Cllr. Nigel Porter and Cllr. Adam Clarke since May 2011.**

- 1. The cost of arbitration between the two at any meetings that they both attend.**
- 2. The cost of any arbitration meeting where one or both parties are absent.**
- 3. Any costs that the council have incurred investigating standards complaints between against either party.**
- 4. Any costs that the council have incurred investigating standards complaints lodged by Cllr. Nigel Porter against Cllr. Adam Clarke, or vice versa.**

### **ANSWER:**

Your request seeks to invite the Council to confirm the involvement of specific named Councillors within the Standards process. We are withholding that information since we consider that to be an absolute exemption under section 40(2) (personal data), and this therefore constitutes a refusal under section 17 of the Freedom of information Act 2000.

Your request also seeks to invite the Council to disclose information about the investigation of specific complaints. This letter constitutes a refusal notice under Section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because an exemption under Section 30 of the Act is being applied, specifically s.30(2)(a)(iii) and s.31(2)(b) Investigations and proceedings conducted by public authorities.

Insofar as it is a matter of public interest to make public the total costs of investigating Standards complaints we confirm that this information is already in the public domain – reference FOIA request 4422 which disclosed the cost of all Standards investigations during 2012/13 and 2013/14 as follows:

There were four investigations. Three were conducted by different investigators at the firm CH&I Associates. The totals for these were £5881; £5423.20; £2812.50. The fourth was conducted by the Monitoring Officer at Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council and cost £2584

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Not all the information that is supplied which is covered by copyright will be the Council's copyright, for example it may be the copyright of a government department or another Council. You should seek either the Council's consent or their consent as appropriate. The Council is willing to advise you of any such potential issues on request. In order to make a request to re-use the information please contact the Information Governance Manager using the details below.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

**Information Governance Manager**  
**Information and Customer Access**  
**Leicester City Council**  
**FREEPOST (LE985/33)**  
**New Walk Centre**  
**LEICESTER LE1 6ZG**

e-mail: [info.requests@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:info.requests@leicester.gov.uk)

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

**Information Commissioner's Office**  
**Wycliffe House**  
**Water Lane**  
**Wilmslow SK9 5AF**

**Telephone: 01625 545 700**

[www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider appeals or complaints until the internal appeals and complaints processes of the public authority which is answering the request have been exhausted. You are therefore advised to complain or appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.