

Derry City & Strabane

District Council

Comhairle **Chathair Dhoire &** Cheantar an tSratha Báin

Derry Cittie & Stràbane

Destrick Cooncil

Ref: FOI / 1248

07 July 2017

Mr

Email: @gmail.com

Dear Mr

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request Council spending on consultants and consultancy firms.

I refer to your FOI request as above and thank you for your forbearance in our delay of response.

Request:

If possible/applicable, please provide this information both for each of the old legacy councils and the new super-council.

For each year from 2013 to 2017 so far (or for fewer years if necessary to bring this request within the time and cost constraints of the FOI Act), please disclose the following:

- 1. The amount spent on consultants and consultancy firms.
- 2. A breakdown of the spending in each instance, detailing:
- The name of the consultant or consultancy firm used.
- The work carried out by them.
- The cost to the council.

I can advise that records from the legally extant Councils while held, are held in different locations, servers, systems and software packages. As you are aware, Section 12(1) of the FOIA contains a provision which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit. For local authorities, this limit is set at £450 - The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 SI 2004 No 3244 refers. Council had identified for reasons outlined above ie Records of the 2 extant legal entities are held in different locations, servers, software and processes that it will take in excess of the 18 hour limit to search the records and therefore is unable to progress your request for the years 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 "Council have a duty to advise and assist" as outlined above, Council notes that you are seeking access to records for 2 legal entities which no longer exist however we are able to respond to your questions on the information readily available for 2015/16 and 2016/17 as attached.

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If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes. Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie **Chief Executive** Derry City and Strabane District Council 98 Strand Road **BT48 7NN** Derry Tel 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow

CHESHIRE SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Lead Finance Officer

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