

From: Freedom of Information Requests

Sent: 24 April 2024 09:42

To:

Subject: FOI Response - [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 6 April 2024 for information about the Mayor's salary reduction to fund a piece of public art celebrating miners. Please find below City of Doncaster Council's responses to the questions you have raised.

1. Was the Mayor's reduction in salary contingent upon the funds being spent on the mining public art piece?

Response: No, the salary reduction (technically an Allowance made up of the Basic Members Allowance and a Mayoral Allowance) was implemented at the request of the Mayor following the 2017 Mayoral election. It was suggested by Mayor Jones that the resulting budget saving could be used as a contribution towards the cost of commemorating and celebrating Doncaster's mining heritage in the City Centre, but the salary reduction was not contingent upon this.

2. If so, this should have been treated as a donation to a public body and not a charity so PAYE and National Insurance contributions should have been payable on this salary sacrifice - can you confirm that these were deducted?

Response: N/A – the funding was from an unspent City of Doncaster Council budget (Mayoral Allowance).

3. If the above is treated as private information relating to the Mayor, can the council please confirm that Employers NI was paid on all salary sacrifice / salary reductions contributing to public art celebrating Doncaster miners - without reference to any specific person living or dead?

Response: N/A

4. Please can the document confirming any salary sacrifice or salary reductions (with personal information redacted) please be shared relating to any such person whose sacrificed remuneration contributed to the cost of the art?

Response: N/A – the funding was from an unspent City of Doncaster Council budget (Mayoral Allowance), there was no salary sacrifice arrangement.

5. Finally, if the salary reduction was not contingent upon the savings being spent on public art, can you please provide the councillors who voted for and against such expenditure and the date of the meeting that such a vote took place?

Response: The decision was taken via an Officer Decision Record approval route, as per City of Doncaster Council's Scheme of Delegations. The decision record can be viewed [here](#). Please note that the information contained within this record is from 2017 and further contributions from unspent Mayoral Allowance budget were made over the period 2017/18 to 2020/21.

6. Additionally, if the art is maintained or cleaned by the council or it's contractors please can you advise of the cost of cleaning or maintaining this, or if this is borne by the Mayor and/or any other council employees/councillors who contributed to it's creation?

Response: City of Doncaster Council's Street Scene team cleanse the plinth and surface immediately surrounding the statue every weekday. The stonework of the actual statue is not touched due to the potential risk of damage (as part of the installation process and cost, the whole statue was coated in anti-graffiti product to mitigate against graffiti damage). This cleansing work is estimated to take

between one and a half to two hours a week but it is not an identifiable separate cost as it forms part of the general workload of the City Centre cleansing routine.

I hope that this information is useful to you.

The City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £46 to respond to this request for information.

Reviewing any decisions made:

If you are not happy with this reply you can ask us to review our response. To do this write to us within 40 working days of receiving your response at the address below or email FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk

If you do not agree with the review decision you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision about our compliance or otherwise with the Freedom of Information legislation. Contact details for the ICO are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. www.ico.org.uk Telephone 0303 123 1113.

Ellen Dook
Information Governance Officer
Corporate Resources
City of Doncaster Council

Address Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU
Website www.doncaster.gov.uk