

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Decision notice

Date: 26 September 2013

Public Authority: Norwich City Council
Address: City Hall
St Peter's Street
Norwich
NR2 1NH

Decision (including any steps ordered)

1. The complainant has requested details relating to the salaries and perks of the chief executive and deputy chief executive of Norwich City Council (the council).
2. The Commissioner's decision is that the council breached section 10(1) of the FOIA as it did not provide a response with the statutory 20 working days from the request.
3. As the council have now responded to the complainant, the Commissioner requires no steps to be taken.

Request and response

4. On 13 November 2012, the complainant wrote to the council and requested information in the following terms:

"We would be pleased if you could acquaint us with the salaries of the Council's Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive. Also their entitlement to severance pay and other perks. We further enquire, who appoints them and do their political persuasions influence the selection process?"
5. The council responded to the complainant on 19 February 2013 and provided the requested information.

Scope of the case

6. The complainant contacted the Commissioner on the 30 April 2013 to complain about the way his request for information had been handled.
7. The Commissioner considers the scope of the case to be whether the council breached section 10(1) of the FOIA.

Reasons for decision

8. Section 10(1) of FOIA provides that a public authority must comply with section 1(1) promptly and in any event not later than the twentieth working day following the date of receipt.
9. The complainant requested the information on the 13 November 2012 and did not receive a response until 19 February 2013. A response was not provided by the council until 3 months after the request. Therefore the Commissioner finds that the council breached section 10(1) of the FOIA in this case.

Right of appeal

10. Either party has the right to appeal against this decision notice to the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)
GRC & GRP Tribunals,
PO Box 9300,
LEICESTER,
LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0300 1234504

Fax: 0116 249 4253

Email: informationtribunal@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.justice.gov.uk/guidance/courts-and-tribunals/tribunals/information-rights/index.htm

11. If you wish to appeal against a decision notice, you can obtain information on how to appeal along with the relevant forms from the Information Tribunal website.
12. Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar) days of the date on which this decision notice is sent.

Signed

Andrew White
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