23 October 2018



Ref No: CA22

Thank you for your email of 21st September 2018 where you requested information about Mr Whiteley. We would respond as follows utilising your numbering for ease of reference:

1: A copy of the terms of engagement and employment of chief executive Martin Whiteley, detailing specifically contractual arrangements including salary, period of notice, benefits applicable, expenses, travel (and whether a car was provided or subsidised lease option).

Response

We can confirm that we hold this information. However, save for the information set out below which will be published in the annual accounts, this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40 (personal information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). This is because the information constitutes personal data as defined in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and disclosing it would breach the principles of fair and lawful processing set out in the GDPR.

We confirm that the salary paid to Mr Whitely was £182,088 at the time his employment came to an end. His salary was originally £150,685, but an acting up allowance was agreed on assuming the additional Chief Executive responsibilities of the LEP in February 2018. Expenses and travel were claimed through the usual processes as and when incurred in accordance with the Authority's processes, but no mileage expenses were payable upon receipt of the acting up allowance. Mr Whitely was also paid an accommodation allowance of £15,000 per annum.

2: A copy of his letter of resignation from the combined authority, the date it was received, and the period of notice given?

Response

We can confirm that Mr Whiteley's employment ended with resignation by mutual agreement on 30 September 2018 based on the terms of a Settlement Agreement and as such all matters relating to notice were dealt with by that agreement.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Authority will not release a copy of the Settlement Agreement as this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40 (personal information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). This is because the information constitutes personal data as defined in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and disclosing it would breach the principles of fair and lawful processing set out in the GDPR.

3: If the period of notice was less than that provided for in the contract of employment, how many days/weeks did he serve?

Response

Please see the response to question 2

4: The date of his resignation which, if it coincides with the date of his departure from the combined authority, who made the decision to continue salary payments in lieu of notice and how much of that notice period equates to holiday pay?

Response

Please see the response to question 2.

There were no continued payments in lieu of notice, all matters were dealt with by the Settlement Agreement.

Mr Whiteley was due two days accrued, but untaken holiday pay.

5: Has any compensation being paid to the outgoing chief executive for loss of office?

Response

Whilst the Authority maintains an exemption under Section 40 (Personal Information) in relation to the agreement itself, we can confirm that Mr Whiteley was paid the sum of £94,500 which included sums relating to contractual notice and compensation for loss of office. The payment was subject to deductions for PAYE and NI.

6: Who was present at the meeting at which it was agreed that the outgoing chief executive should leave the authority?

Response

There was no meeting to agree that the Chief Executive should leave the Authority. Please see the response to question 2.

7: Why has the chief executive not worked out any discernible notice period?

Response

Please see the response to question 2

8: Who made the decision to appoint two acting chief executives ahead of ratification by the cabinet/board of the combined authority?

Response

It was informally agreed by the Board members that a proposal for two acting interim Chief Executives would be made to the meeting of the Board on the 28th of September 2018. These papers are in the public domain.

9: A copy please of any advertisements placed for his successor?

Response

We can confirm that the Authority does not have this information as this has not yet been agreed.

10: Specifically too whether the outgoing chief executive's contract of employment allowed him to retain, as is apparent from Companies House listing, his directorship of Blue Marble?

Response

This is not anything related to the Combined Authority

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter.

Please remember to quote the reference number CA22 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Patrick Arran Interim Monitoring Officer

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The Combridgeshins and Peterbarough Combried Authority can be certainted via Unit 3, The Incubator, Alconbury, Medid Enterprise Compus, Alconbury Weeds, Hurbringdon, PE20 4WX.

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