

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_20200214**
Date FOI Received: **05/03/2020**
Department: **Corporate Communications**
Title: **Council spending 2014-2020**
Description: **Details on the amounts spent between 2014 and 2020 on ceremonial robes, public relations taxis, mobile phones and advertising.**

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

Dear freedom of information team

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information:

Please could you tell me how much has been spent on:

1. Ceremonial robes and props for council officials
2. Public relations (including social media)
3. Taxis taken by council officials
4. Mobile phones
5. Advertising council cuts or how the council will cope with them

Please give me the information broken down by year, for the last six years (by this I mean from 2014 and including any data you have for 2020).

If this request exceeds the cost/time threshold set out in the Freedom of Information Act, please disregard question 5.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined please provide further advice and assistance to indicate this.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be happy to clarify what I am asking for, my details are outlined below.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.

Regards

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ceremonial Robes	596	383	532	1,683	1,252	35
Public Relations	52,502	50,455	46,147	46,189	46,855	45,731

Mobile phones	29,335	30,627	29,082	27,327	31,167	33,267
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*Figures are provided up until the end of February 2020 and may not be complete

Taxis are only used in exceptional circumstances and therefore the information on taxi expenditure is not collated.

There are no specific costs for advertising council cuts. Any adjustments to the council's budget are detailed as part of normal publications which include the budget book and the council tax leaflet.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545700
Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards
Information Services