

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_2019015**
Date FOI Received: **08/01/2019**
Department: **Corporate Communications**
Title: **Corporate Comms staff and spending**
Description: **The number of staff and amount spent on corporate communications including external contractors.**

Request: *(As Redacted sent by requestor)*

Combined

Response: *(Response as Redacted sent by service)*

1. How many people does the council currently employ in communications, press office and/or public relations positions? **We have 2.4 full time equivalent members of staff in the communications team.**
2. What was the total annual spend by the council on public relations, press office and communications for the calendar year of 2018? **Spend in 2018 £65,208 excluding salary costs of £129,914.**
3. Does the council use any external organisations to handle communications or public relations? If so, which companies are used and how much did the council spend on these services in 2018. **In 2018 we engaged ORS to undertake a residents survey at a cost of £21,340.**

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:

<http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/councildemocracy/accesstoinformation/>

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

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