

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]  
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA200819-0595

20 December 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 20 August 2019. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am sorry for the delay in responding.

You requested:

*My FOI request concerns council expenditure on refreshments between 1st January 2018 and 31st December 2018.*

*Please can you tell me how much was spent on tea and biscuits at council committee meetings over the course of the year?*

*What type of biscuits and brand of tea were supplied?*

*If the information is held centrally and will not exceed cost requirements, could you please provide me with the equivalent figures for departmental meetings too?*

Please find below the information we hold within the scope of your request:

*1. My FOI request concerns council expenditure on refreshments between 1st January 2018 and 31st December 2018.*

*Please can you tell me how much was spent on tea and biscuits at council committee meetings over the course of the year?*

*What type of biscuits and brand of tea were supplied?*

To put our response in context, I should note that the GLA is London's strategic government and does not operate in the same way as local councils. Our response refers to the London Assembly's [Committee meetings](#). Neither tea nor biscuits are provided at Committee meetings. Assembly Members are provided with carafes of water at public meetings, however there are no charges. The same is true for the [whole Assembly meetings](#) (Mayor's Question Time and Assembly Plenary meetings).

*2. If the information is held centrally and will not exceed cost requirements, could you please provide me with the equivalent figures for departmental meetings too?*

Interpreting 'departmental meetings' to mean meetings held between GLA teams/directorates (GLA staff only), the response is nil. Staff are instructed not to book catering for internal meetings.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA200819-0595.

Yours sincerely

  
**Information Governance Officer**

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:  
<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>