**Freedom of Information - Humberside Fire and Rescue Service**

**2024/25 068 – Trade Unions**

**The request is:**

I would like to request the following information:

 1. The details of any office accommodation your organisation provides to staff to carry out trade union business. Please include details of:

* space measured in square feet
* how much of this space is contained within entirely separate buildings (i.e. occupied solely by staff carrying out trade union business)
* whether a professional valuation of the market rental value of the space has been sought either in-house or externally, and if so, what the valuation of the space was
* any charges the council levy for office space given to trade unions.

2. Do you deduct trade union subscriptions for any of your employees via payroll (sometimes known as the "check off" system)? If so, do you charge a fee to the trade unions concerned for providing this service?

3. With regard to trade union facility time, please provide the total cost of facility time from your pay bill for the financial year 2023/24 and the budget for the current financial year. Please also advise the current number of employees that you fund to be union officials, measured as full time equivalents? (For guidance on definitions please refer to the Government's Transparency Code for local government: [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-transparency-code-2015/local-government-transparency-code-2015](https://url.avanan.click/v2/r02/___https:/www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-transparency-code-2015/local-government-transparency-code-2015___.YXAxZTpodW1iZXJzaWRlZmlyZTphOm86Zjc0MmQ0OWViMjEwZTNmMzdkY2RkYmY0Mzk1YzJjNTU6NzpkZmU5Ojk2MjUwYzA2ZjFjMDljN2E2N2E0OTBlZTdjMDk1YmRiOGJmOGZhYjNlYzRjZGZmMDIzODFmNDViNWJlNWI2NzQ6aDpUOk4))

 4.  Please advise any estimates for other costs met for those staff on trade union facility time apart from salaries - including travel expenses, office supplies, telephone expenses and energy bills.

**The response is:**

1. We can confirm that the space used to carry out trade union business measures 9.89m2.

This space is located in our Service Headquarters.

No valuation has taken place and there are no charges involved in the use of this space.

1. We deduct union subscriptions via payroll, but we do not charge a fee for providing this service.
2. The following annual costs apply, inclusive of the organisation’s on-costs:

FBU – 1 FTE FF – £55,910.00

FRSA – 1 member of staff providing 1 hour per week – £1,327.56

Unison – 2 members of staff providing 1 hour per week each – £2,351.44

1. There are no additional costs

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. A request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this email. If you are not happy with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply direct to the Information Commissioner at [www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints](https://newsletter.ico.org.uk/c/1lULiJldYNwfIFlCf3c4BKJdO). The postal address is: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.