

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001985
Date 26 February 2018

Emergency Services - Staff

Request:

To ask under the FOIA

1. Whether your local authority offers special leave / public duty leave for council staff to fulfil public duties relating to the emergency services. Such duties include: retained fire fighters, special constables, on call NHS / Community responders, search and rescue workers, the RNLI and any other emergency services workers. it does not include jury service or armed forces, or sitting on a health authority board / committee?
[Leave for public duties does not include duties relating to the emergency services. In addition to leave for jury service and for service in non-regular Forces, the Council's public duties leave provision refers to and covers:](#)
 - A magistrate
 - A member of another Local Authority
 - A member of a committee of a Local Authority
 - A member of a public body/Whitley Council
 - A member of the national executive of a trade union
 - A delegate to a national conference of a trade union
 - A member of the managing or governing body of an educational establishment maintained by a Local Education Authority
 - A member of a statutory tribunal
 - A member of a Strategic Health Authority.
2. If the local authority offers such special leave for the emergency services, is it paid or unpaid? If it is paid, how many days / hours are offered per calendar year?
[Leave for public duties relating to the emergency services is not offered.](#)
3. If the local authority pays staff to take such leave, for a copy of this policy. And the number of staff who have taken the leave between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017 (broken down by 'emergency service' in part one?)
[Leave for public duties relating to the emergency services is not offered.](#)
4. If the local authority does not offer such special leave, whether there are plans to introduce such a policy?
[There are no immediate plans to introduce this type of leave. The Council's leave policy was last reviewed in July 2017. The next review is scheduled for](#)

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

July 2020.

Note: The following link may be useful: <https://www.gov.uk/time-off-work-public-duties>