

8. To note receipt of a Freedom of Information Request and agree an appropriate response

This is a Freedom of Information request:

Please can you forward me under a freedom of information request all correspondence between the town council or any councillors who were involved in organising the debate at Lady Lumleys School Pickering on the 8th of March 2018.

I am particularly interested in the following information, when I request e mails it also means any written correspondence which was by the traditional method of using the Royal Mail:

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E mails that were sent between the town council or its representatives when deciding who would chair the debate.

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Who actually finally made the decision appointing the Bishop James Jones as the chair of the debate.

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Who made the decision of who could be present in the audience and who would be refused tickets already allocated.

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All correspondence between any people denied access to the debate prior to the evening. Including all e mails between the people denied access, correspondence between the councillors about the people denied access and why they were denied access.

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Any correspondence which allows people access who were not Ryedale residents.

In the audience there were several prominent anti fracking campaigners who are not residents of Ryedale. These included well known people from York, Selby, Sowerby Bridge, Scarborough, Manchester, Lancashire and London.

Transparency is key in all aspects of public life as I am sure the council is well aware. How can the council defend the selection of the audience when some locals were unable to attend. The chair was a well known opponent of shale gas and fossil fuels and then the audience could be seen to have been 'selected' without following the councils own public criteria.

I look forward to your response and information.

Best wishes

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.