



REQUEST 19050

I am seeking clarification regarding the Council's approach to investment and the handling of elected members' enquiries. Please provide the following information:

1. Investment Prioritisation

Has Wigan Council, officer or elected member issued any formal or informal policy, directive, instruction, or internal guidance in the last five years relating to the prioritisation or deprioritisation of investment in specific wards on the basis of the political affiliation of elected members?

Please supply copies of any documents, emails, meeting minutes, or communications (internal or external) that reference investment decisions being influenced by, or connected to, the political party membership of ward councillors.

2. Handling of Members' Enquiries

Have Council officers received any instructions, guidance, or direction—written or verbal—not to prioritise or to deprioritise members' enquiries submitted by councillors representing Atherton North?

If any such communications exist, please provide copies, including emails, memos, notes, or internal briefings.

Please also provide any relevant policies governing the handling, response times, and prioritisation of elected members' enquiries.

RESPONSE

1. There is not nor has been any policy, directive, instruction or guidance issued regarding this matter and therefore the authority holds no information.

2. Officers have not received any instructions, guidance or direction to prioritise or deprioritise member enquiries submitted by Councillors representing Atherton Wards. Officers are and must remain politically neutral so such guidance etc would not be permissible. As no such guidance has been issued, the Council do not hold any information.