

Mr Ted Jeory
Via email only

ted.jeory@express.co.uk

7 November 2013

Our Ref: L/MO/MN
Your Ref:

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Dear Mr Jeory

RE: Your blog 3 November 2013

I am writing with reference to the following comments made by you and published on your blog on 3 November 2013 concerning the Council's elected Mayor:

"I'd imagine he's built up a good war-chest as a result; he does need it given the way Lutfur Rahman has been raiding the grants budgets to fund his campaign"

This statement implies that the Council's funds are being taken by the Council's elected Mayor and used for political purposes.

As pointed out by Mr Sulaiman, the Council's Head of Communications, in his email sent to you on 4 November 2013, in which he asked that you remove these remarks, the comments you have made are possibly libellous.

The Council makes grant funding available through a variety of published schemes. Grant applications are determined by the Mayor following assessment by officers and based on recommendations from the Corporate Grants Programme Board. The arrangements for the Board have been presented to Cabinet and are publicly available on the Council's website.

The Mayor's decisions are published and subject to scrutiny by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee has actively exercised that scrutiny function and the material relating to scrutiny is available on the Council's website. There have been no legal challenges against the Council questioning either its processes or the decisions made.