

Wiltshire Council

Council

13 November 2012

Questions from Councillors

From Cllr Ernie Clark, Hilperton Division

To

Cllr Jane Scott OBE, Leader of the Council

Question 1

In a previous question relating to the Kennet non-pensionable honoraria payments for this meeting, I quoted the KPMG executive summary statement which stated 'We understand from a memorandum from a solicitor at the Audit Commission that, in his view, honorarium payments should not have been included in redundancy calculations.'

However, in the full report (page 50 paragraph 4.2.1) this sentence has been redacted. Why was this redaction made to the full report?

Response

I am advised by officers that there have been a number of requests for information in respect of this matter. I am not sure as to which documents from those requests you refer to.

However the sentence was redacted at one stage because the officer doing the redacting considered that as it was legal advice given to KPMG legal professional privilege (a recognised exemption) may attach. It was subsequently decided that this exemption would not attach to this sentence.