



Freedom of Information Request FOI 26 51

Poundbury costs, Five Rivers costs, CFO salary for last 5 years

Query and Response:

Please give provide the monthly costs that the service pays for the buildings listed below. These payments are in relation to rental costs.

Poundbury old headquarters building, if this is not possible please provide the costs for the entire site. Please also provide the annual cost of gas and electric to the building, specifically the old headquarters building.

The previous Dorset FRS Poundbury HQ building is subject to a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) agreement, after which time ownership of the building will revert to DWFRS. There is no rental element for this building, but DWFRS pay "unitary charges" as part of the PFI contract. For the Poundbury building these charges amounted to £624,833 in 2024/25. However, this is offset by grant income of £1,626,975 per annum towards the cost of all our PFI properties. The share applicable to the previous Dorset FRS Poundbury HQ building is £365,371.

We have provided costs for gas and electricity for the last full financial year, 2024/25:

Electricity - £33,476.09

Gas - £30,707.78 (please note the gas figure is for the entire site as there is only one gas meter and it is not possible to split the consumption between the fire station and old Dorset FRS HQ building).

Five Rivers - the costs the service pays (per month) to have use of space at the Salisbury Five Rivers building, please include any and all associated costs, for example negotiation fees.

DWFRS paid £850,000 up front to Wiltshire Council in February 2016 for a 10 year lease. Annual rental is therefore £85,000 (monthly £7,083.33). We also paid £3,583 legal fees relating to original lease of Five Rivers during 2015/16.

The lease has been extended, and the annual rent is £134,000 payable in 4 quarterly instalments of £33,500.

Salary of the CFO over the last five years, broken down annually.

Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, a request for information can be refused where one or more exemptions listed in the Act apply. In this case we are claiming the following exemption to the information that you have requested:

Section 21 – Information accessible by other means. The information in relation to the salary of the Chief Fire Officer can be found in the statement of accounts using the following link and selecting the year required. This information into on the CFO salary can be found between page 71 and 74, depending on the year of the report.

[Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service | Statement of Accounts](#)

Information/Detail accurate on the date provided: 23, March, 2026