From: FOI

Sent: 23 March 2022 14:54

To:

Subject: FOI 024-22 - Response

Dear ,

Our Ref: FOI-024-22

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 9 March 2022.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is shown below followed by our response.

Ribble Valley MP signed up as a 'space MP' for the Asgardian nation project in 2018. He was inaugurated as an 'MP' for this project June 23/24 2018. He then served as 'Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee' for Asgardia in 2018-19. My request is to ask did Mr Evans ever declare this role as a registered interest? If so, did he ever submit any record of receiving any financial remuneration, hospitality or gifts in kind relating to his involvement with the Asgardia project.

Our response is as follows:

We do not hold the information you have requested.

Members of the UK Parliament are required to report the donations they accept and all other interests to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards for publication on the <u>Register of Members' Financial Interests (RMFI)</u>. The RMFI publish all of a Member's declared interests, so you will find the link useful for any interest that Mr Evans has reported.

The Commission does also maintain a register of donations to political parties and elected representatives with information on donations and loans to Members of the UK Parliament drawn from the RMFI data, which can be <u>viewed here</u>. We have looked at the entries on our register for Mr Evans and cannot find any donations in relation to Asgardia.

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and I trust that this information satisfies your request.

If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/freedom-information/make-a-freedom-information-request.

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely

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The Electoral Commission electoral commission.org.uk