

**Halley Baljagh,  
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Please address all correspondence  
to the Town Clerk.



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FOI/HSB/foi041

5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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Dear xx

**Your request – FOI041**

We write further to your request which was received on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and which states:

*“In April 2022 Ramsey Town Commissioner Wilf Young pleaded guilty in court to illegally depositing waste in an area of notable ecological importance in Lezayre. The Bayr ny Hayrey Curragh, also known as the Dollough Curragh is so notable for its biodiversity that part of it is designated within the Ballachurry Area of Special Scientific Interest under the Wildlife Act 1990. All of the site, including the location of Wilf's illegal dump (at SC408956) is listed as an 'Area of Ecological Importance' on the Area Plan for the North and West.*

*Wilf Young admitted two offences of depositing unlicensed waste from his company, Wilf's Skips, in this important wet woodland habitat, and of operating a waste disposal site without a waste disposal licence. This illegal habitat clearance, destruction and dumping of both household and commercial waste, including dangerous controlled waste, had been taking place for some years as is so severe that it can be clearly seen from space via satellite imagery.*

*Cont/d*

*I would like to know:*

- a) Has Commissioner Wilf Young declared his guilty plea and conviction to Ramsey Town Commissioners?*
- b) Has Commissioner Wilf Young declared his position within Wilf's Skips, or the aforementioned court case on the Ramsey Town Commissioners Record of Interested Expressed under Section 11 of the Local Government Act 1985?*
- c) Have Ramsey Town Commissioners discussed the above crimes to which Commissioner Wilf Young has pleaded guilty?*
- d) Have Ramsey Town Commissioners taken any subsequent disciplinary action against Commissioner Wilf Young?*
- e) Noting Ramsey Town Commissioners' vision of 'making Ramsey a better place to be', do Ramsey Town Commissioners consider Commissioner Wilf Young, as a convicted environmental criminal, fit to represent the people of Ramsey?*
- f) Do Ramsey Town Commissioners have a Code of Conduct for their Commissioners?"*

Response to your request

a-No, Mr Young has not declared his guilty plea to the Commission, however this was in the public domain in April 2022.

b-In accordance with Section 13 of the Local Government Act 1985 the authority maintains a register of declarations under Section 11 of Local Government Act 1985. In the case of Mr Young the following declarations were made in respect of business interests.

20 June 2012	2012/13:061	W. G. Young	Town Clerk's Report Complaint Young's Yard – Mr. Young spoke
15 Feb 2012	2011/12:369	W. G. Young	Business involvement with vehicles affected
20 Mar 2017	2016/17:373	W. G. Young	Boundary Wall Water Street Car Park - interest not qualified
20 Dec 2017	2017/18:260	W. G. Young	On-Going Matters - Boundary Wall

These declarations are also recorded in the minutes for the above meetings. Minutes from Ramsey Town Commissioner Meetings are published at [www.ramsey.gov.im](http://www.ramsey.gov.im).

c-No, this matter has not been discussed by the Commission.

d-No action has been taken by the Commission.

e-This item has not been discussed by the Commission.

The Elections (Keys and Local Authorities) Act 2020 section 20 defines the criteria for disqualification for election and holding office as a member of a local authority.

*Cont/d*

This can be found online at

[https://legislation.gov.im/cms/images/LEGISLATION/PRINCIPAL/2020/2020-0014/ElectionsKeysandLocalAuthoritiesAct2020\\_3.pdf](https://legislation.gov.im/cms/images/LEGISLATION/PRINCIPAL/2020/2020-0014/ElectionsKeysandLocalAuthoritiesAct2020_3.pdf)

f-Ramsey Town Commissioners does not have a Code of Conduct. Under Section 27 of the Local Government Act 1985, Local Authorities are required to make standing orders governing their proceedings. The Standing Orders for Ramsey Town Commissioners are published on our website -

<https://www.ramsey.gov.im/media/1787/ramsey-town-commissioners-standing-orders-may-2021.pdf>

There is a Local Government Handbook, and section 18 is titled “Corporate Governance Principles and Code of Conduct”.

This is in the public domain and can be found using this link

<https://www.gov.im/media/324559/local-government-handbook-final-200522.pdf>

#### Your right to request a review

If you are unhappy with this response to your Freedom of Information request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review of the response, by completing a complaint form and submitting it electronically or by delivery/post to the sender of this letter at the address / email address shown.

An electronic version of the relevant complaint form can be found by going to our website – <https://www.ramsey.gov.im/your-commissioners/freedom-of-information/>.

If you would like a paper version of the complaint form to be sent to you by post, please contact us and we will be happy to arrange for this. Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied with this response and should be made as soon as practicable. We will respond as soon as the review has been concluded.

If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner for a decision on;

1. Whether we have responded to your request for information in accordance with Part 2 of the Freedom of Information Act; or
2. Whether we are justified in refusing to give you the information requested.

*Cont/d*

In response to an application for review, the Information Commissioner may, at any time, attempt to resolve a matter by negotiation, conciliation, mediation or another form of alternative dispute resolution and will have regard to any outcome of this in making any subsequent decision.

More detailed information on your rights to review is on the Information Commissioner's website at: <https://www.inforights.im/>.

If anything is unclear, or if you have any queries concerning this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

H S Bevan  
Deputy Town Clerk