

12 April 2024

IC-293623-M7Q1

Request

"How much has the ICO spent on the upcoming 'people like us' conference 2024 in London. This includes any contractors, food, drink, speakers, ICO staffing costs and travel as well as any additional costs of having the conference not listed.

"The rationale behind hosting the conference in the ICO office"

We received your request on 12 March 2024.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

Our response

We hold some information in scope of your request.

The total cost of the People Like Us (PLU) conference was £19,843.43.

This cost includes: relocation of office furniture and furniture hire, AV package, catering, drinks and glass hire, soft drinks and snacks, cake toppers, ICO branded pens, staff travel and accommodation, and the hire of host, photographer and videographers from PLU.

In relation to the second part of your request, we do not hold information that formed part of the decision making process because the matter was discussed verbally.

We do hold the following information in a draft 'internal lines to take' document:

Why are we hosting this event?

We're really proud of the collaboration between the ICO and People Like Us (PLU), and the powerful impact this partnership will have.

Last year we launched our EDI Objectives which focus on representing the communities we serve, building an inclusive culture and better

understanding the needs of everyone to deliver services that are accessible to all.

We're coming to the end of the first year of our EDI action plan in which we commit to developing our understanding of diverse communities. Events like our PLU collaboration support this by driving awareness of the work we do with new audiences and bringing their fresh perspectives to our world. This is a great opportunity to support our EDI work.

How does the ICO benefit from the event?

Events such as these will help us with our own commitment to 'continuously develop the ICO's culture, capability and capacity to deliver impactful regulatory outcomes, be recognised as an effective provider of public services, a knowledgeable and influential regulator and a great place to work and develop.'

By hosting PLU, we'll be able to showcase the very best of the organisation and encourage people from diverse communities to consider us as an inclusive employer.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. Please let us know in writing if you want us to carry out a review. Please do so within 40 working days.

You can read a copy of our full [review procedure](#) on our website.

If we perform a review but you are still dissatisfied, you can complain to the ICO as regulator of the FOIA. This complaint will be handled just like a complaint made to the ICO about any other public authority.

You can [raise a complaint](#) through our website.

Your information

Our [privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us, and sets out [your rights](#). Our [Retention and Disposal Policy](#) details how long we keep information.

Yours sincerely



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