15 December 2025

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your follow up email.

In the response to my FOI request (dated 2nd December 2025) regarding Question 10 which was:-
What role did the Town Council play in the offer from the DCC to provide Auckland Project with a grant for the demolition and construction of a new hotel in the former market place area.

I would like to know who was the seat member representing Bishop Auckland Town Council (BATC) on the Stronger Towns Board regarding the decision to provide The Auckland Project (TAP) with the grant for the demolition and construction of the new hotel in the Bishop Auckland Market Place. What role did the BATC member play in the decision and did that person support or oppose the awarding of the grant to TAP.

I can confirm that the Mayor for their civic year has the Town Council set at the Stronger Towns Board. Therefore depending upon when the decision was made would depend upon whom was representing the Town Council. The agendas and minutes of the meetings are available on Durham County Councils Website https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=1464

Regarding Question 12 which was:-
What role did the Town Council play in the offer from the DCC to provide Auckland Project with funding for the Artist Hub.

I would like to know who was the seat member representing Bishop Auckland Town Council responsible for recommending allocations of the Future High Street Fund regarding the Auckland Project getting funding for the Artist Hub. What role did the BATC member play in the decision and did that person support or oppose the awarding of the grant to TAP.

Regarding the Art Hub, this is in relation to Stronger Towns Funding, therefore the answer is as above.

Regards

Sarah Harris
Town Clerk