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Dear Corporate Services Committee, Chair and Members c/o Linda Rowe:

In the early part of 2014, I became aware of several ways that the previous London City Councillors were using taxpayers' dollars – through their Councillor Expense Funds – that I totally disagreed with. In this letter, I will focus on just one of my concerns as I strive to have certain guidelines amended to ensure that tax dollars are used in a more prudential manner.

City Councillors are involved in many activities that require them to travel throughout London. Meeting with business owners and attending community events are just two quick examples. In all of these instances – if a Councillor is using his/her own vehicle – fuel is being consumed. Within the guidelines stating how Councillors are allowed to use their Expense Funds it is stated that fuel purchases can be reimbursed to the Councillor... but the guidelines are very vague, leaving much room for abuse of these funds.

My investigations showed that one of London's previous Councillors was claiming between \$350.00 to \$425.00 each and every month for the last several years. In a few instances, claims reaching close to \$500.00 were being submitted and approved. I find these amounts to be quite excessive and I feel that the present system was being abused by this Councillor.

In August of 2014 I submitted a letter of similar nature to this one, suggesting that the guidelines for this topic be amended. This is an excerpt from that letter - "To make this process completely fair, Councillors should have simple fuel expense forms that are filled out each month, stating the date of a meeting, the location of the meeting, reason for the meeting and the distance travelled to and from that meeting with a set ratio to make calculations easier (something like \$00.23 per Km travelled – for example). This is the way that most business deal with this issue." I totally understand the need for City Councillors to attend meetings and events throughout London and I have absolutely no problem with them claiming fuel costs using their expense accounts, but regulations are needed and guidelines need to be amended to ensure that this is done in a more prudential manner. I am urging the Corporate Services Committee to make the needed recommendations for Council approval using inspiration from my above suggestion or finding another suitable solution.

The outcome from my previous effort was far from satisfactory. My letter and suggestion was simply 'noted and filed' with absolutely no discussion ensuing and consequently no action taking place. I'm trusting that the new chair and members of this term's Corporate Services Committee will act in a more responsible manner in regards to the subject matter of this letter.

I am requesting that this letter be placed on the Corporate Services Committee agenda.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this letter and please keep my updated with the results of this issue after it has been presented to the Corporate Services Committee.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jim Kogelheide