

## APPENDIX (as supplied by Reform Head Office)

### **TV Licences**

#### **Zia's tweet:**

*Kent County Council is using taxpayer money to pay for TV licenses for asylum seekers.*

*Remember that next time you are asked to pay for yours.*

- What Zia uncovered here is a national scandal.
- Whilst we understand that this money has come from the Home Office and is distributed through KCC, we firmly believe this is a waste of taxpayer's money.
- Of course, we will follow our legal obligations on this matter, but we would hope that an incoming national Reform UK government would put an end to this waste of money.

### **£450k KCC audit**

#### **Zia's tweet:**

*If you're furious about the way Kent County Council are spending your money, take solace in the fact that their 'external auditors' charged the taxpayer £450k for their services.*

*They'll charge even more this year.*

*What a racket.*

- This is exactly what the DOGE programme is for. Identifying and querying potential waste and seeing where efficiencies can be found.
- In this case, after Zia queried the spend it was revealed that it was nuanced.
- Such large sums of money should always be questioned.
- I'm glad this was brought to our attention and we are now armed with the full facts.

### **£350m recruitment services**

#### **Zia's tweet:**

*Wow. Kent County Council tendered a contract for recruitment services for £350 million over 4 years.*

*That's £87.5 million per year of taxpayer money being spent on "advertising vacancies" and "interviewing" people.*

*That's a staggering 22% of their annual payroll.*

*What a racket*

- Zia never claimed this was discovered by DOGE, but used this as an example of concerning spending.
- This is exactly what the DOGE programme is for. Identifying and querying potential waste and seeing where efficiencies can be found.
- In this case, after Zia queried the spend it was revealed that it was nuanced.
- Such large sums of money should always be questioned.
- We are glad this was brought to our attention, and we are now armed with the full facts.

## **Fraud allegations**

### **Zia's tweet:**

*Kent Council has already admitted to £2.8 million of confirmed fraud last year alone.*

*They paid £63,000 of taxpayers' money to a care provider for someone who had already died.*

*And that's just the start.*

*£190k stolen on a council card*

*£150k claimed through fake grants*

*£30k paid to care providers fraudulently.*

*Council tax fraud, procurement scams, blue badge abuse*

*It's a broken system with no grip on public money. How much more taxpayer money is being stolen? How deep does it go?*

- This is an unacceptable amount of money to lose through fraud. We are grateful to Zia for uncovering this.
- We are also grateful to the council staff for their reassurances that much of this money has been recouped in one form or another.
- Taxpayers expect their money to be handled with the utmost care, and under this administration we will clamp down on money lost through fraud and do everything in our power to recover what has already been lost.