

**From:** Rose Peacock [REDACTED]@sunderland.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Request for Media Comment  
**Date:** 17 April 2024 at 15:55  
**To:** editor@scientologybusiness.com  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sunderland.gov.uk



Hello Alexander,

Please find below a comment from the City Council:

**Statement from Sunderland City Council**

In common with many organisations, the City Council hires out rooms in its venues to a wide range of groups and organisations throughout the year.

Kind regards  
Rose

Rose Peacock  
Media Relations Manager  
Sunderland City Council  
[REDACTED]@sunderland.gov.uk

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**From:** Alexander Barnes-Ross <editor@scientologybusiness.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024 2:28 PM  
**To:** Museums <Museums@sunderland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Request for Media Comment  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Sunderland Museum,

I'm an investigative journalist that covers Scientology's UK and European activities and I was recently made aware that a private fundraising event has been arranged to take place at the Sunderland Museum this Saturday, 21st April.

Scientology was rejected charity status in 1999 after it failed to demonstrate a public benefit to the Charity Commission, and recently a number of individuals have come forward with harrowing accounts of abuse, harassment and child trafficking within the organisation internationally. I am working on an article about Scientology's operations in Sunderland and the forthcoming event at your Museum, and I was wondering if you could provide any comment on the controversial group, and why it has been allowed to use your premises to raise money despite it's well-documented history of fraudulent activity internationally?

The article is due to go live this week so a response before 12 noon tomorrow would be greatly appreciated to ensure Sunderland Museum's response is included in the piece.

*About us:*

*Scientology Business is a digital publication, launched in August 2023 that reports on Scientology's financial, legal and corporate affairs in the UK and Europe. We are currently the only Google-verified news source on the topic of Scientology and take a fair and journalistic approach in our investigations into Scientology's European affairs.*

Many thanks and kindest regards,

**Alexander Barnes-Ross**  
Editor

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**SCIENTOLOGY BUSINESS**

*Analysis and commentary on the Church of Scientology's corporate structure, shell companies and financial activities in the UK and Europe.*

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