



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2008-04513

Keyword: Finance

Subject: EXPENDITURE FOR DECORATING PSNI STATIONS

Request:

1. **How much money has the PSNI spent on decorating its police stations in each of the last three years (either financial or calendar is acceptable)**
2. **An inventory of all instances of decorating work in this time, including the date, location, nature and cost of each instance.**
3. **How much money has the PSNI spent on decorating office accommodation for officers including and above the rank of superintendent in each of the last three years (either financial or calendar is acceptable)**
4. **An inventory of all instances of decorating work in this time, including the date, location, nature and cost of each instance.**

Answer:

The cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Regulations 2004, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450. The reason for this is that decorating costs are contained within Project Files. None of these Project Files have jobs separated out per category, e.g. decorating costs. Approximately 3,000 files would need to be examined to see if decorating was part of the project. Even then we could only give reasonable estimates, not absolute as decorating could be part of a larger project & not specifically costed by the contractor.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

You may wish to submit a refined request in order that the cost of complying with your request may be facilitated within the 'appropriate limit'. Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including consideration of relevant Part II exemptions. **The PSNI can provide a reasonable estimate of decorating costs for a specific site, within the cost limit.** To provide 100% accurate decorating expenditure, even for one site, would however still be likely to exceed the cost limit as a number of Project Files would need to be researched to extract and collate the relevant information.

If you have any queries regarding your request or this decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this email.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do

this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that all PSNI replies under Freedom of Information will be released simultaneously into the public domain via our website @ www.psni.police.uk.

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.