



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-02176

**Keyword:** Finance

**Subject:** COST OF POLICING PARADES - F DISTRICT

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

Please specify which band parades and Orange Order services within 'F District' which the PSNI have policed between January 1 and July 13 this year. Please state the date, location, PSNI DCU/area, number of officers allocated and the cost of policing each parade.

#### Answer

I have been advised that within 'F' District there has been a total of 274 Orange Order parades notified to police within the specified time period. The Police Service of Northern Ireland have assessed that 53 did not require policing.

The policing of the remaining 221 parades involved 1428 police officers and the total cost of this was £197,829.29.

I have also been advised that the locations of these parades which range from the large towns of Omagh, Dungannon, Cookstown and Enniskillen to well known places like Derrygonnelly, Reaghan, Clogher and Drumconvis to the lesser known places such as Mulnahunch, Gillygooley, Drumshemuck and Timpany are available on the Parades Commission web site at [www.paradescommission.org](http://www.paradescommission.org)

With regard to the breakdown requested in relation to each individual parade I have been advised that the level of detail is high and would require an examination of all parades in the District Command Unit from the start of the year until the 13th July. This would involve the manual examination of over 274 locations for parades and would take in excess of 24 hours

To accurately supply the information a staff member would have to firstly have to identify the dates and locations of all parades, then a trawl would have to be carried out to determine which of these parades were policed by the PSNI and the deployment of officers. It would then be necessary to calculate the cost of individual parades, including overtime etc. Therefore, it is estimated that the cost of complying with this part of your request request, including locating it, retrieving it and extracting it 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 (18 hours).

The Police Service of Northern Ireland have also considered whether we can be of any assistance in terms of helping you refine your request to bring it under the cost and would advise that if specific parades were chosen we may be able to provide a response regarding these.

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.

## Question 2

Please specify how many officers were allocated to policing the July 13 parades at Fivemiletown, Coagh and Dromore (Co Tyrone) and the cost of policing each parade.

### Answer

I have been advised that the number of officers and the cost of policing the requested parades is as follows -

Fivemiletown:-	1 Inspector, 3 Sergeants, 34 Constables.	Total Cost £18,431
Coagh:-	1 Inspector, 3 Sergeants, 29 Constables.	Total Cost £16,605.
Dromore:-	1 Inspector, 6 Sergeants, 33 Constables.	Total Cost £19,409.

The above officers were also involved in the policing of feeder parades.

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](mailto: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 PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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