



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2011-03377

**Keyword:** Finance

**Subject:** PSNI Funding

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

Please could you provide through the Freedom of information how many Community Groups in the Antrim Line and University electoral wards in Newtownabbey have been awarded PSNI funding, what the funding was for and how much was awarded for the past 4 years.

#### Answer

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

It is estimated that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate costs limit" under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450.

Funding applications are made to a number of different sources and budgets including Policing With Community Fund, Local Initiative Budget, Local Purchase Order and Assets Recovery Incentive Scheme. To provide a complete response to your request would involve searches to be carried out by Community Safety Headquarters, Community Safety within D District, Sector and District Finance. It has been estimated that to carry out these searches and retrieve the information would take approximately 40 hours.

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'. In compliance with Section 16 of the Act, I have considered how your request may be refined to bring it under the appropriate limit. If you were to limit your request to include funding provided through the Policing with the Community Fund and the Local Initiative Budget for the last 2 years, it may be possible to provide you with a response within the cost 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.

Although excess cost removes the PSNI's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information relative to your request which was retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request. Please see below;

During the last four years two community groups in the Antrim Line and University electoral wards have been provided funding through the Policing with the Community Fund. One event was a Cross Community Ten Pin Bowling Event and there was £1040 allocated. The other event was in respect of a Multi Cultural Diwali event and there was £7000 allocated. Please note this information was provided from Community Safety, Headquarters and does not include Policing with the Community Funding which may have been approved by District Commanders.

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 letter.

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.psnj.police.uk](http://www.psnj.police.uk)

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