



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-00698

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Anti-Social Behaviour in Comber

Request and Answer:

Question

Please consider this request under the FOI Act for details of all recorded instances of anti-social behaviour in the area of Laburnum Gardens, Comber (specifically those in the close vicinity of 7 Laburnum Gardens) in the last 5 years. I request copies of all correspondence both internal and external (including emails, letters, records of meetings, internal memos, handwritten notes - this list is not exhaustive) pertaining to any discussion of any kind, where 7 Laburnum Gardens featured either directly or indirectly.

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.

I have contacted C District in attempt to retrieve the information relevant to your request. However the information is not held on a central computer system and would have to be retrieved from several computer systems i.e. NICHE, MARS, TRIM and Command and Control (C&C). The search within the District would also involve a trawl of all correspondence sent to the Area Commander and Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT). It is therefore estimated that the total time for these searches would exceed the cost threshold to cover the 5 years requested.

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. It may be possible for the District to provide the information within the relevant costs, if the request was refined to only cover a specified 2 year period.

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.

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.

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.psnipolice.uk

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