



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2012-03368

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** City of Culture Celebrations

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

Further to your response to my FOI request (F-2012-03156), I have refined my request as follows:

I request details (location, members present, date) of the PSNI's first five meetings with City of Culture representatives/stakeholders. To clarify, by "first five meetings", I am referring to meetings that would have been held prior to the formation of the PSNI's City of Culture planning team and presumably prior to Derry winning the bid for City of Culture.

#### Answer

No meetings were held prior to the announcement of the actual city of culture bid. There were three meetings prior to the formation of the City of Culture Planning Team;

1. Meeting with District Commander Chief Superintendent Stephen Martin and City of Culture Company Chief, Shona McCarthy in August 2011
2. Meeting with District Commander Chief Superintendent Stephen Martin and City of Culture Company Chief, Shona McCarthy in September 2011
3. Meeting between key PSNI personnel and the City of Culture Company in October 2011.

The following personnel were in attendance:

Chief Superintendent Stephen Martin - District Commander  
Superintendent Chris Yates - Operations Manager  
Superintendent Stephen Cargin - Service Delivery  
Chief Inspector Andy Lemon - Operations Chief  
Chief Inspector Gary Eaton - Area Commander, Foyle  
PSNI Media Officer  
Inspector Alec Penney - Operations Inspector  
Inspector Barry Pollin - Response Inspector, Foyle  
Sergeant Gerry McLaughlin - Operations Sergeant  
Staff Officer, G District  
Inspector, Security Branch  
Head of Crime

## **Question 2**

Did the PSNI seek extra funding for City of Culture celebrations? If so, what was the purpose of that funding? How much funding was requested? How much was provided and by whom? Please also provide details (specifically, costs) on what that funding was to be used for (please provide the breakdown of budget as detailed in the funding application).

## **Answer**

PSNI has not as yet sought additional funding for the City of Culture Year.

## **Question 3**

What are the specific responsibilities of each member of the PSNI's City of Culture planning team?

## **Answer**

The planning team comprises a Chief Inspector, an Inspector and two Constables. The team has been set up to work within appropriate structures, work closely with the Culture Company and build relationships with key partners including Ilex and Derry City Council. This is vital as we deal with lead-in events taking place during 2012, plan for the headline events during 2013 and ensure a smooth exit strategy during 2014.

### **Chief Inspector, Team Leader**

Lead the team, set the strategy for planning for the year and promote community confidence in the PSNI, build partnerships with all stakeholders and assist in the delivery of successful events.

- Provide leadership, advice, guidance and support to Gold/Silver Commanders
- Provide the single point of co-ordination for all safety and security partners
- Provide the single informed point of contact for other PSNI departments, dealing with any matters which may affect the UK City of Culture 2013
- Ensure necessary briefings & updates are supplied
- To sit on the City of Culture Infrastructure Group.

### **Inspector**

- To advise partners on specific event planning and safety issues.
- To sit on the Safety Advisory Group.
- To prepare operational orders and deployment for larger scale events

### **Constables**

- Develop templates for the main venues
- Help prepare operational orders and deployments for events
- Prepare individual risk assessments for each event
- Sit on the transport sub-group

The planning team will also give advice in relation to security, public safety and human rights.

## **Question 4**

During 2013 (City of Culture celebrations), will the number of police officers in the Derry operation be increased (or reinforcements drawn on from other branches)? (Please cite what evidence/documents you've based the answer on).

## **Answer**

There are no plans to second additional officers to G District for the City of Culture Year at this time. Resourcing for individual events will be met out of existing and additionally sought budgets. Officers will be drawn from G District resources as well as other Departments.

## **Question 5**

Currently, how many police officers work in the PSNI's Derry operations?

**Answer**

There are 472 officers currently working within G District covering Derry, Strabane, Limavady and Magherafelt Council areas.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the 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.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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