Personal, Professional, Protective Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request Number: F-2013-02811

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Temporary Holding Facilities Erected for G8

Request and Answer:

Question

The total costs involved in the erection of the temporary holding facilities built at the site of the former St Lucia Barracks in Omagh as part of the G8 security operation.

Answer

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

The provision of a temporary custody and criminal justice processing facility at the site of the former St. Lucia Barracks in Omagh as part of the G8 security and policing operation had to meet a broad range of objectives, as follows.

It, as an integral part of the overall Criminal Justice Strategy had to comply with the Human Rights Act 1998 in terms of legality, proportionality and necessity in upholding the law, protecting the public, protestors and police officers and staff.

It had to comply with the existing legislative framework, including the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, the associated Codes of Practice and applicable regulations.

It had to properly support the main aims and objectives of the Gold strategy as established by the Gold Commander.

It had to properly support ongoing day-to-day policing business continuity regarding Criminal Justice and custody issues.

It had to integrate with other Criminal Justice partners in order to deliver effective and efficient justice.

It had to ensure that custody capacity, resourcing and infrastructure supported the delivery of speedy visible justice and safe detention.

It had to ensure that case management capacity and resourcing supported the delivery of speedy visible justice.

It had to promote public confidence in PSNI and the wider Criminal Justice system.

The total estimated costs include £325,816.00 for the installation of camera and scanning equipment, computer installation, data communications and telephony.

It further includes £509,920.00 for the construction of the cells. The remaining £3,750,000.00 covered the full range of supporting infrastructure, materials costs and construction costs.

The current estimated final cost in relation to the temporary custody and criminal justice processing facility at the site of the former St. Lucia Barracks in Omagh is £4,585,736.00.

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.

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

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