



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-01923

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Costs For Policing Odyssey Arena

Request and Answer:

Question

I was wondering how much the PSNI charge the Odyssey Arena for policing their arena during events in the years 2012, 2013 and to-date in 2014; The criteria that is decided in how much to charge the Odyssey Arena; the frequently in which the PSNI issue to the Odyssey Area a bill for policing their events; if any time during period mentioned above the Odyssey Arena haven't paid the full amount for policing their events; the steps PSNI will take in order to recover the outstanding charge.

Answer

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) has now completed its search for the information you requested and the answer to your questions are as follows.

During large events at the Odyssey complex there may be a police presence in the area however, events in the arena are not policed and therefore the Odyssey is not charged.

In response to this Freedom of Information to the PSNI I would like to point out the following.

The Freedom of Information Act is a piece of legislation which quite rightly opens up public authorities to greater scrutiny and accountability.

Under the provision of the Act an authority must process a request in writing from a named applicant under the terms and conditions of the legislation. Whilst giving maximum support to individuals genuinely seeking to exercise the right to know, the Commissioner's general approach will be sympathetic towards authorities where requests can be characterised as being part of a campaign. With regard to this request we are including a warning under Section 14(1) (Vexatious Request) of the Freedom of Information Act that any future requests may attract this exemption.

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.