



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01687

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Removal of Bonfire Material Policing Costs

Request and Answer:

You have made the following requests to PSNI:

Under Freedom of Information legislation could you please provide me with a breakdown of all policing costs relating to the removal of material from two bonfire sites in East Belfast on 11th July 2018. The PSNI were present while contractors removed material from bonfires at Cluan Place and Bloomfield Walkway on the 11th July 2018.

Please provide me with the separate overall cost associated with the policing of the removal of material from each site on these dates.

Please also provide me with a breakdown of the costs associated with the policing operation on each site such as officer pay, equipment etc.

I would also like the PSNI to tell me how many police officers were present at each site as the material was removed."

Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. We apologise for the delay in responding to you and for the inconvenience this has caused. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the FOI Act I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose to you the information you have requested.

Please find below a table containing details of cost estimates for policing the Bloomfield walkway and Cluan Place Bonfires - July 2018.

Events	Duty Time £s	Overtime £s	Non-Pay £s	Total PSNI £s
Bloomfield Walkway Bonfire	37,289	84,168	0	121,457
Cluan Place Bonfire	36,365	30,895	0	67,261
Totals	73,654	115,064	0	188,718

In terms of total numbers of officers present at each site, we can confirm PSNI mounted a significant policing operation at both sites to assist those statutory agencies responsible for removal of bonfire materials. Whilst policing numbers changed throughout the duration of the policing operations dependent on requirement, approximate numbers of Public Order Unit at each site included:

Bloomfield Walkway Bonfire: 16 Public Order Units

Cluan Place Bonfire: 11 Public Order Units.

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.