



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2021-01944

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Dalradian and Galantis Mines: PSNI Policing Costs

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the 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 the following.

Request 1

My request pertains to the policing of exploratory operations by the mining company Dalradian near Greencastle and Gortin in County Tyrone. Please provide a breakdown of the annual cost of PSNI policing incurred by Dalradian between August 2015 and August 2021. This should cover all associated costs, including but not limited to police security and the escorting of explosives?

Answer

Please find below yearly recorded costs:

<u>Financial Year</u>	<u>Costs Invoiced</u>	<u>Costs Not Invoiced</u>	<u>TOTAL COSTS</u>
2015/16 (from 1st August 2015)	£ 247,981	£ 87,000	£ 334,981
2016/17	£ 151,860	£ 9,600	£ 161,460
2017/18	£ -	£ -	£ -
2018/19	£ -	£ -	£ -
2019/20	£ -	£ -	£ -
2020/21	£ -	£ -	£ -
2021/22 (to 31st August 2021)	£ -	£ -	£ -
TOTAL COSTS	£ 399,841	£ 96,600	£ 496,441
All figures in this table ex VAT			

Request 2

Please also confirm whether costs incurred by Dalradian between August 2015 and August 2021 have been paid to the PSNI. This should include, but not be limited to, the £397,000 invoiced to Dalradian for the costs associated with policing of the company's mining operations between 2015 and 2016 (which came to light at the time via FOI disclosure)?

Answer

As of 19th October 2021 PSNI has not received any payments from Dalradian.

Request 3

If those costs have not been met, please provide an explanation as to why?

Answer

Legal advice received by PSNI has indicated that the police services provided could not be considered to be "special police services" and are not therefore chargeable. This being so PSNI decided to cease legal proceedings against Dalradian aimed at trying to recover costs incurred by PSNI in regard to the provision of police services to Dalradian;

Request 4

Please also confirm whether any similar costs incurred by the company Galantas, which is currently conducting exploratory drilling at Cavanacaw, Omagh, have been paid?

Answer

Galantas have made payments to PSNI for police services provided at Cavanacaw, Omagh. But for the reasons noted at Request 3 above PSNI intends on refunding all such payments.

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 Corporate Information Branch, 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 Corporate Information Branch, 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 remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, 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', or use the ICO self-service portal available at www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/officialinformation-concerns-report/official-information-concern/

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 their discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psn.police.uk

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

