

13 January 2025

Dear Sir,

REFERENCE: FOI24\108

Thank you for your request for information dated 15 September 2024 in which you requested the following information:

From 2nd May 2019 onwards, please provide details of spending on events, promotional materials, literature, merchandise, media, marketing, advertising or any other projects or activities which promote or endorse any of the following:

- the monarchy of the United Kingdom
- British Royal Family members (living or deceased)
- members of the British nobility and/or any Lieutenancy,
- any registered charity with a Royal charter or the term 'Royal' in its name,

including but not limited to that which marks or celebrates or commemorates the following listed occasions – also including any and all grants, funding and payments from all and any of your funding sources to any recipient in connection with these purposes:

- A royal's jubilee or other coronation anniversary
- A royal's accession anniversary
- A period of mourning and/or funeral for a royal
- A royal's birthday (either their natural birthday or "official" birthday)
- A royal's wedding anniversary
- Any similar occasion

Any other project/activity which promotes the monarchy of the United Kingdom or any member of the British Royal Family or any member of the nobility or any Lieutenancy or any registered charity with 'Royal' in their name or which are established by Royal charter

Please provide a full breakdown with dates of the relevant spending, spending by year, and please specify what events/activities/projects were in receipt of funding, how much funding they each received, and explanations of the nature of these events/activities/projects.

Furthermore, please explain to what extent your policy or actions (be it related to

funding or otherwise) have either provided for, or restricted, or otherwise regulated or concerned, the promotion or endorsement of the monarchy of the United Kingdom and of British Royal Family members (living or deceased) or the actions thereof (be they contemporary or historical actions) and of the Lieutenancies and of registered charities with 'Royal' in their name or which are established by Royal charter, including but not limited to via the raising of flags, the lighting of buildings, or other such displays, and please advise of the history of your policy on this matter and any changes to it since its inception.

Please also provide copies of any correspondence between you and any member of the British Royal Family, between you and any Royal Household, between you and any members of British nobility, and between you and any Lord Lieutenant, Deputy Lord Lieutenant or the staff thereof.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives you two rights of access when you write to us asking for information. You have the right to know whether we hold recorded information falling in scope of your request and you have the right to receive this recorded information subject to cost limit or exemption.

I apologise for the delay in responding to your request. I can advise, however, that the Department of Justice arranged for the purchase of Platinum Jubilee Medals in 2022 and Coronation Medals in 2024 for Prison Officers, Belfast Harbour Police, Belfast International Airport Police and individuals involved in search and rescue organisations.

A prejudice test in line with Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act has been applied to this request to determine if release of the information would or would likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person, including the Department. A copy of the prejudice test is attached for information. On balance, it has been concluded that the public interest is weighed in favour of non-disclosure of the costs of the Platinum Jubilee Medals and Coronation Medals.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland made separate arrangements for the purchase of medals.

You may also wish to note that the Department, alongside the NI Policing Board, provides annual funding of circa. £4.25m to Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) via a letter of offer to council Chief Executives, to address local community safety issues and confidence in policing in each of the council areas. The majority of PCSP work entails engagement with local communities, with the granular detail on PCSP projects held within each council.

There are no other records relating to your request.

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you request an internal review, please do so in writing stating the reasons to the address above.

If following an internal review you were to remain dissatisfied you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner and ask the Commissioner to investigate whether the DOJ has complied with the terms of the FOIA. You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Further details on the role of the Information Commissioner can be found at:
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

DoJ Records & Information Manager

PREJUDICE TEST – COST OF PLATINUM JUBILEE MEDALS AND CORONATION MEDALS

Considerations in favour of our disclosing information

There is a general public interest in the disclosure of information. There is also public interest in ensuring proper management of public funds.

Considerations against our disclosing information

Release of the costs of the medals could prejudice the commercial interests of the company supplying the medals. Specifically, release of the cost involved, alongside details of the number of medals awarded if released separately, could give an advantage to competitors by giving an indication of the company's pricing. There is a clear public interest in ensuring the Department does not prejudice the interests of commercial companies and in turn ensuring the Department can maintain a good working relationship with external suppliers and deal effectively with them in the future. Release of the information could potentially prejudice the commercial interests of the Department. This may put the Department at a disadvantage in future procurements. There is a clear public interest in ensuring the proper and efficient use of public funds.

Conclusion

On balance the public interest is weighed in favour of non-disclosure. There is no significant public interest in disclosure of the figure, over and above the general public interest in the release of information. There is, however, a clear public interest in avoiding likely prejudice to the commercial interests of the company from which the medals were purchased and the Department.