



Department of
Justice
An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
Máinnystrie O tha Laa
www.justice-ni.gov.uk

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03 June 2025

REFERENCE: FOI\25\50

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your request for information dated 1 May 2025 and detailed below.

Under the Freedom of information Act 2000, I am requesting the following information:

1. A breakdown of all funding awarded to women's organisations and groups in Northern Ireland by your department over the past 10 years (2014-2024).
2. A breakdown of all funding awarded to men's organisations and groups in Northern Ireland by your department over the same period.
- 3, The criteria or strategy your department uses when allocating funding to gender-based organisations.

Please provide this data in a format that shows year-by-year totals and included the name of the organisation or project where possible.

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.

Some of the information cannot be provided due to cost limit, however a partial response has been provided below. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and for central government is set at £600. This represents an estimated cost of one person spending 24 working hours, at a cost of £25.00 per hour, to determining whether the Department holds the information, and then retrieve and extract that information.

We have identified that the number of files that would need to be manually reviewed to extract all the relevant information spanning the full 10-year period would exceed the cost and time limits set under the FOI legislation.

However, if you were to revise your request to cover the 5-year period 2019-20 to 2023-24, we would be in a position to process it and provide the information within the applicable FOI thresholds.

I should make clear that the Freedom of Information Act does contain a number of exemptions which we will consider in respect of any information we might find, and so a further refinement of your request does not guarantee any / all information being provided.

In terms of your request for information, the relevant details have been provided as below.

(1) A breakdown of funding awarded to women's organisations and groups in Northern Ireland by the Department of Justice (DoJ) over the 10 financial years from 2014-15 to 2023-24 is outlined at **Annex A**.

(2) A breakdown of funding awarded to men's organisations and groups in Northern Ireland by the DoJ over the 10 financial years from 2014-15 to 2023-24 is outlined at **Annex B**.

(3) The criteria or strategy used when allocating the funding outlined in **Annex A** and **Annex B** to gender-based organisations is as follows:

Each of the Organisations listed received funding following a successful application to the Assets Recovery Community Scheme. Applications are evaluated and scored by an assessment panel and whether an organisation is gender-based does not form part of the assessment criteria.

Some of the information you have requested is covered by the following qualified exemption (as detailed in **Annexes A** and **B**);

Section 38: Health and Safety

When this exemption is applied, we are required to consider whether the public interest in withholding information outweighs the public interest in releasing it.

Section 38 (s38) – Health and Safety Public Interest Test

In favour of release:

There is a general public interest in transparency and openness in how Government funding is spent.

In favour of non-disclosure:

Given the sensitive nature of some of the work carried out by the DoJ, some individuals working for an organisation that receives DoJ funding might or might be likely to be exposed to increased risk of targeting or attack should their involvement in certain work be made public. This risk of attack or targeting could be increased depending on where staff members live. There is obviously a strong public interest in avoiding harm to individuals and their families in relation to this matter.

Conclusion:

We have concluded that the public interest in retaining the organisation names which fall within the criteria described above for s38 outweighs the public interest in release.

In addition to the information included within **Annex A** and **Annex B**, there may have been funding awarded to women's organisations and groups and/or to men's organisations and groups by Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs). There is no individual record kept by DoJ of PCSP initiatives broken down by gender as the specifics of each initiative / project are held by individual PCSPs. To obtain this level of detail (if retained by PCSPs) you will need to contact individual PCSPs in each local council. Please see www.pcsp.org for further information.

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

The Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out.

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

Yours sincerely

Records & Information Manager

ANNEX A

Breakdown of funding awarded to women's organisations and groups in Northern Ireland by the Department of Justice (DoJ) over the 10 financial years from 2014-15 to 2023-24

Financial Year	Organisation	Project Title	Allocated Funding £
2023-24	Fermanagh Women's Aid and Omagh Women's Aid	Right to be Safe	12,500
	Grace Women's Development LTD	Safer Community Project	1,440
2022-23	Grace Women's Development LTD	Safer Community Project	1,440
2021-22	Grace Women's Development LTD	Safer Community Project	3,000
	Women's Aid Armagh Down	Safe at Home	3,000
2020-21	Top Ten Women's Drama Group	Outside In	8,495
2019-20	Top Ten Women's Drama Group	Outside In	9,161
2018-19	Top Ten Women's Drama Group	Outside In	3,170
2017-18	Women's Aid	Production of Criminal Justice information map	8,000
	Women's Aid	Provision of a regional specialised support agency database	14,000
	Women's Aid	Regional emotional abuse campaign	10,000
	Women's Aid	Provision of survivor's guide	5,000
	Women's Aid	Promotional materials for all specialised services	5,000
	Women's Aid	Sponsorship of older people conference	5,000
2016-17	No applicable projects	No applicable projects	-
2015-16	Kilcooley Women's Centre	Affirmation Project	8,000
2014-15	Details withheld *	Details withheld *	2,000

* The organisation which has received funding has not provided consent for its name to be included in the response. This is covered by the Section 38 exemption referred to above.

ANNEX B**Breakdown of funding awarded to men's organisations and groups in Northern Ireland by the DoJ over the 10 financial years from 2014-15 to 2023-24**

Financial Year	Organisation	Project Title	Allocated Funding £
2023-24	The Men's Advisory Project	Supporting men who have faced and are facing interfamilial abuse	15,000
2022-23	Details withheld *	Details withheld *	5,000
	The Men's Advisory Project	Supporting men who have faced and are facing interfamilial abuse	7,500
2021-22	Details withheld *	Details withheld *	6,000
	The Men's Advisory Project	Help and support for parents experiencing child to parent violence and abuse	4,000
2020-21	No applicable projects	No applicable projects	-
2019-20	Details withheld *	Details withheld *	6,960
2018-19	Details withheld *	Details withheld *	4,000
2017-18	No applicable projects	No applicable projects	-
2016-17	Details withheld *	Details withheld *	18,080
2015-16	No applicable projects	No applicable projects	-
2014-15	No applicable projects	No applicable projects	-

* The organisation which has received funding has not provided consent for its name to be included in the response. This is covered by the Section 38 exemption referred to above.