



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

Department of Justice
Records & Information Team
Information Services Division
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Belfast
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Email: FOI@justice-ni.gov.uk

12 February 2025

REFERENCE: FOI/25/9

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your request for information dated 21 January 2025 and detailed below.

Under FOI access I wish to request all records from 1st July 2024 to 31 August 2024 in relation to uplift in PSNI revised environmental allowance.

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.

The DOJ has estimated that to locate, retrieve and extract the information that might be relevant to your request would involve work considerably more than the appropriate limit, this is due to ***the large number of files held***. 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 determine whether the Department holds the information, and then retrieve and extract that information.

To date, **269** files have been identified as *potentially* containing relevant information within ***one business area only***. It is estimated that to search through each file manually

for relevant information will take 1 member of staff approximately **14** minutes per file, giving a total of **63** hours work. At a cost of £25 per hour, this equates to **£1575.00** which is higher than the appropriate limit. Consequently, the department is not obliged to comply with your request under section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, 2000.

However, in order to be helpful, please consider narrowing the scope of your question, for example – are there particular records you would like to view in relation to the uplift in PSNI's revised environmental allowance?

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