



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

Department of Justice
Records & Information Team
Information Services Division
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Telephone 028 90 378617
Email: foi@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk

16th August 2021

REFERENCE: FOI\21\35

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your request for information dated 28th July 2021 and detailed below.

Please provide a copy of all reports/briefing documents linked to bonfires or bonfire sites produced by the department in each month since January.

Please include all minutes, audio recordings, diary entries and written notes relating to any meetings at which bonfires/bonfire sites were discussed in each month since January.

This should also include all text messages sent or received from departmental mobile phones.

It should also include all internal emails/written correspondence generated by officials prior or subsequent to each meeting.

The Department has considered your request and has interpreted it as seeking all information held by the Department relating to the subject matter of bonfires or bonfire sites since 1st January 2021. The Department has determined that to fully comply with your request would involve searching all documentation created during the time period of 1st January 2021 until the date of your request on 28th July 2021.

The Department has established that over 200,000 documents were created during this time period and has therefore determined that to locate the information requested would considerably exceed the cost limit specified in the regulations as £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. Consequently, the department is not obliged to comply with your request under section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, 2000.

You may, therefore wish to consider refining the scope of your request. One way of doing so would be to specify in more detail what information you require relating to bonfires or bonfire sites. This would allow the Department to perform more targeted searches to locate information in scope of your request.

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.

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

