



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Reference number: 05/2019

Date: 29 March 2019

Request:

I am writing to seek clarity on a number of issues pertaining to Dalradian and the cost to the public purse regarding their activities in the Sperrins.

1. Have Dalradian paid an Invoice of some £400k served by the Psni on them 3 years ago for security costs?
2. Is there an updated cost to the public purse relating to policing around the Goldmine?
3. Have the Policing Board conducted an audit on projected policing costs for the Dalradian project going forward?
4. Have the local Pcsp been pro active in communicating with the public in relation to how the police are dealing with the community on the Dalradian project? If not, why not?
5. Has the local Pcsp made any effort to reach out to the plethora of community groups opposing industrialisation in the Sperrins? If not, why not?
6. Have the local Pcsp asked Dalradian Goldmining company to make a presentation to them given the community tension around their proposal? If not, why not?
7. Has the policing Board reached out to any community groups protecting the Sperrins from Goldmining? If not, why not?
8. Will the Policing Board undertake to establish contact with said groupings, either through their own good offices or local Pcsp?

Answer:

Response to Questions 1 and 2:

1. Have Dalradian paid an Invoice of some £400k served by the Psni on them 3 years ago for security costs?
2. Is there an updated cost to the public purse relating to policing around the Goldmine?

The information you have requested is not held by the Northern Ireland Policing Board. However, we have identified that the Police Service of Northern Ireland [PSNI] may hold this type of information.

You can contact the PSNI Freedom of Information Team by post at the address below;

Freedom of Information Team
Corporate Development
Brooklyn
65 Knock Road
Belfast
BT56 6LE

Or by e-mail;

foi@psni.pnn.police.uk

Response to Question 3:

3. Have the Policing Board conducted an audit on projected policing costs for the Dalradian project going forward?

No. A Board Member asked the Chief Constable a question in relation to this issue on 6th October 2016. The text of the question and response is as follows:

Question:

Payments from Dalradian Gold for the police protection provided at the gold mine in Greencastle (Ross Hussey)

To ask the Chief Constable for an update on the position of payments from Dalradian Gold for the police protection provided at the gold mine in Greencastle. I had raised questions on this issue before and ACC Todd had advised that he had submitted an account for provision of police to guard explosives. As you are aware this is again in the public eye due to announcement for FOI response in relation to police costs in excess of £400,000.

Response:

To date a total of £397k has been invoiced, however Dalradian are in disagreement with the Chief Constable's position on cost recovery. Both parties are seeking further legal advice and this matter is with PSNI's Legal Counsel. No monies have been received to date.

Response to Questions 4, 5 and 6

4. Have the local Pcsp been pro active in communicating with the public in relation to how the police are dealing with the community on the Dalradian project? If not, why not?

5. Has the local Pcsp made any effort to reach out to the plethora of community groups opposing industrialisation in the Sperrins? If not, why not?

6. Have the local Pcsp asked Dalradian Goldmining company to make a presentation to them given the community tension around their proposal? If not, why not?

The information you have requested is not held by the Northern Ireland Policing Board. However, we have identified that the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council may hold this type of information.

You can contact the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council by post at the address below;

By post to:

Freedom of Information

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
Townhall
2 Townhall Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh
BT74 7BA

Or

Freedom of Information

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
The Grange
Mountjoy Road
Omagh
Co Tyrone
BT79 7BL

By e-mail to: foi@fermanaghomagh.com

Response to Questions 7 and 8

7. Has the policing Board reached out to any community groups protecting the Sperrins from Goldmining? If not, why not?

8. Will the Policing Board undertake to establish contact with said groupings, either through their own good offices or local Pcsp?

The Policing Board has not reached out to groups in relation to this issue. The Board in partnership with the PSNI held a major consultation on local policing between August and November 2018. As part of this process 7 public meetings were held within the Fermanagh and Omagh, Derry and Strabane or Mid Ulster Council areas. Goldmining in the Sperrins was not identified as an issue for Local Policing at any of these consultation events.

The Board have an Engagement Team and will engage with any group who wish to raise a policing issue. The Engagement Team can be contacted at:

Tel: 02890408571

Email: engagement@nipolicingboard.org.uk

Post: at address below.

If you have queries about this request or the decision please contact the Board quoting the reference number above. If you are unhappy with the service you have received and wish to make a complaint or request a review you should write to the Board's Chief Executive at the following address:

Northern Ireland Policing Board
Waterside Tower
31 Clarendon Road
Clarendon Dock
Belfast BT1 3BG

Email: foi@nipolicingboard.org.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot investigate or make a decision on a case unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Board. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:-

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Telephone: - 0303 1231114
Email: - ni@ico.org.uk

Please be advised that Policing Board replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.nipolicingboard.org.uk.

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