



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Reference number: 36/2016

Date: 25 August 2016

Request:

1. I would like attendance figures for each of the Policing and Community Partnership meetings for the past three financial years - 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16. If you could provide a breakdown of figures for officials and members of the public in each of the districts that would be great.
2. How much are officials paid to attend each meeting?
3. How much has been paid out to officials who have attended meetings in the last three financial years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16?
4. Could you please provide details (amount and reason) of any additional expenses (ie travel, accommodation) paid to PCSP members over the last three financial years - 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16?
5. How many members are there on each PCSP?
6. Please provide an explanation for the role and effectiveness of PCSPs.

Answer:

1. These figures are not held by the Policing Board. The attendance figures for the current 11 PCSPs and 4 DPCSPs, and the attendance figures for the 26 legacy PCSPs and 4 DPCSPs can be obtained from the PCSPs and DPCSPs. Contact details for the PCSP's and DPCSP's can be accessed via the following website link:
<https://www.pcsp.org/locate-your-pcsp>
- 2 & 3 PCSP Managers are Council employees. They are paid an annual salary which will include attendance at meetings. Details of amounts paid in salaries are held by the Councils. Contact details for the Councils can be accessed via the following website link:
<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/contacts/local-councils-in-northern-ireland>
4. The amounts paid to PCSP Members (Political and Independent Members only) in relation to travel and subsistence are as follows: 2013-14 - £46,034; 2014-15 – £32,567; 2015-16 - £22,051. The Policing Board does not hold copies of the claim forms which detail the reason for each claim – these are verified and retained locally by the Council.

5. There are 19 Members on each of the eleven PCSPs; and 11 Members on each of the four DPCSPs. Each PCSP and DPCSP will also have representation from at least four of the following
- the Police Service of Northern Ireland;
 - the Northern Ireland Housing Executive;
 - the Probation Board for Northern Ireland;
 - the Youth Justice Agency of Northern Ireland;
 - the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service;
 - the Education Authority; and
 - Health and Social Care Trusts (excluding the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service).
6. The role of PCSPs is to help make communities safer and to ensure that the voices of local people are heard on policing and community safety issues. The effectiveness of PCSPs is one of the functions monitored by a Joint Committee. A Joint Committee has been established under the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 to oversee the work of the PCSPs and DPCSPs. It consists of representatives from the Department of Justice and The Northern Ireland Policing Board and usually meets quarterly.

The Joint Committee receives quarterly reports evidencing delivery against three strategic objectives which are reflected in the PCSP annual action plans. The three strategic objectives are as follows:

- To form, and successfully deliver the functions of, the Policing and Community Safety Partnership for the area;
- To improve community safety by tackling crime and anti-social behaviour; and,
- To improve community confidence in policing through: To improve community confidence in policing through:

In addition to this the Joint Committee also receives six monthly reports from the PCSP Policing Committees. Policing Committees are established by each PCSP and has a specific statutory authority for oversight of local policing and gaining the co-operation of the public with the police in preventing crime and enhancing community safety.

PCSPs also have a statutory requirement each year to complete an annual report which also set out how the PCSP delivers against the three strategic objectives.

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:-

The Information Commissioner's Office – Northern Ireland
3rd Floor
14 Cromac Place
Ormeau Road
Belfast
BT7 2JB.

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.