



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Reference number: 48/2013

Date: 24 October 2013

Request:

1. Under Fol Act 2000 can I request the how much has been claimed by Sinn Fein, SDLP, UUP, Alliance Party and the DUP in the last 10 years from the Board's Research Support Allowance for political parties?
2. Also who did each Party employ in this role in each financial year?
3. If names cannot be given, then can I request each time there was a change of personnel in each year for each party?

Response:

1. The following amounts have been paid to political parties in Research Allowance Support since the inception of the scheme in October 2008 up to and including 30 September 2013 :

Sinn Fein	£88,005
SDLP	£88,843
UUP	£81,615
Alliance	£35,904
DUP	£86,566

These amounts include the standard allowance plus Employers National Insurance Contributions (ERNIC)

2. The names of the researchers are not being released as to do so would be a breach of data protection legislation.

3. The political parties have changed named researchers as detailed below during the lifetime of the scheme :

Sinn Fein	One change of named researcher
SDLP	Five changes of named researcher
UUP	Two changes of named researcher
Alliance	No change of named researcher
DUP	One change of named researcher

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
12 Cromac Place
Gasworks
Ormeau Road
Belfast
BT7 2JB.

Telephone: - 02890 269 380

Email: - ni@ico.org.uk

Please be advised that all Policing Board replies under Freedom of Information will 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.